

SAMUEL GULLY & CO

300 PAIRS OF
Blankets

At the very lowest prices ever quoted on the same class of goods. Wool is higher, and Blankets were never lower-priced than now. Why then do we advertise to sell our stock at such immense reductions? Because we would rather have the money than to have it tied up in a big Blanket Stock.

Heavy white wool blankets, 68x30, regular price \$2.75, sale price only
\$2 39 pair

Extra fine wool blankets, 68x30, former price \$3.75, sale price only
\$3 19 pair

Extra-Schofield wool blankets, 64x30, regular price \$4, sale price only
\$3 39 pair

Extra large fine wool blankets, 68x32, usually \$4.50, sale price only
\$3 89 pair

Special values in fine all wool blankets, regular price \$5, only
\$4 39 pair

Great value in fine all wool blankets, 68x30 weight 5 1-2 lbs, regular price \$5.50, at only
\$4 69 pair

Very fine heavy all wool blankets, 72x34, weight 5 1-2 lbs, regular price \$6, great value at
\$4 98 pair

All wool blankets, 72x34, weight 6 lbs, regular price \$6.50, special at
\$5 39 pair

Very fine all wool blankets, 68x30, weight 5 lbs, regular price \$12.50, special at
\$5.69 pair

SAMUEL GULLY & CO

VAN HOUTEN'S Cocoa

IS ONE OF THE BEST on the market and if you will call at my store any day this week we will serve you free with a cup of it that you may be convinced that we only claim what it justly merits.

OUR INTERESTS are mutual and if you will kindly accept this invitation I feel very sure you will feel amply repaid.

I AM OFFERING some very desirable bargains in Coffee and Tea. You will find any line of Teas at 45c a lb will surprise you and are just as good as you have been paying more money for.

M V N Braman.
12 STATE STREET.

Tailoring Opportunities.

Now that the rush of the Holidays has passed give some thought to your own wardrobe. If you require a Suit, an Overcoat or trousers, take advantage of our markdown bargains and low tariff prices. This means closing out quite a large quantity of goods at about one-fourth less than their real value. Also a complete line of men's furnishing goods for less than cost. Look them over.

P. J. BOLAND.

BY TELEGRAPH.
DE LOME WITHDRAWN

Spanish Minister's Resignation Accepted This Morning. Insult to President the Cause.

Madrid, Feb. 10.—Dupuy De Lome Spanish minister to the United States, has been withdrawn on account of his letter insulting President McKinley. De Lome's resignation was cabled Tuesday night in anticipation of what would happen.

A meeting of the cabinet was held today, the queen regent presiding. The minister has been cabled accepting his resignation.

The first secretary of the legation in Washington has been intrusted with Spanish affairs there.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The state department gave out this morning the cablegram to Madrid, asking for De Lome's withdrawal. The latter had admitted he wrote the letter.

The circumstances under which a letter of this character could escape from the privacy of the two persons between whom it passed excites much comment. The general belief is that it was never delivered to Joseph Canalejas, but was stolen while en route. Canalejas was in Washington some time ago, and then went to Cuba for the purpose of observing the condition of affairs there.

As a former minister in Liberal cabinets, having been minister of justice, and as the editor of The Herald at Madrid, he was accorded a warm reception by Minister Dupuy De Lome, who gave a banquet in his honor, which was attended by a number of prominent men. He then left for Cuba, and his mission necessarily brought him into continued correspondence with Minister De Lome. As the letter bears no date, the time that it was forwarded can only be fixed by the context. That it was after the president's refusal is evident.

As soon as the letter appeared in the press, the state department officials began an effort to settle its authenticity, and when it had learned all that could be developed on that point and had been told that the minister himself refused to deny writing it, the consideration of the next step began. Assistant Secretary Day was in consultation with the president on the subject at least four times during the official day, and then spent much time in framing his message to United States Minister Woodford at Madrid. The official statement of the sending of this message was accompanied by a declaration to indicate its contents at this time, the department merely giving to the press the following statement:

"Minister De Lome does not deny writing the letter. This department has communicated with General Woodford on the subject. Until that communication reaches the Spanish government it would be improper to in any manner state the contents of the message to General Woodford."

While the department refused to add anything to this meager announcement, it can be stated without question that Mr. Woodford was directed to lay the facts developed before the Spanish government, together with the statement that in view of the minister's refusal to deny the authorship of the letter, the Spanish government is looked to with confidence to deal with the case properly. This amounts to an invitation to recall the minister, presuming that he himself has not already taken steps to vacate his position. No doubt is entertained of a compliance with the implied suggestion, but in case there should be undue delay in acting, the state department would feel called upon to move directly in the matter and give the minister his passports, as was done when Sir Julian Pauncefote's predecessor wrote the celebrated Murchison letter.

It may be stated that with Lord Sackville the department of state itself initiated the action. Lord Sackville had written a letter to one Murchison in Pomona, Cal., in September, 1888, in reply to his request for guidance, as a naturalized American of British birth, in casting his vote for president. The reply was sent from Beverly, Mass., where the minister was stopping and would not now, nor probably at any time except in the heat of one of the great four-yearly elections, be regarded

as a Cambridgeport chaplain and w. a. Baker medical director.

In a speech delivered by Commander-in-Chief Gobin, he declared there never was a period in the history of the Grand Army of the Republic when it was so absolutely necessary that all comrades should touch elbows. "The old soldier is being attacked all along the line. Things are said about him which we know are not true, but they want us to prove they are not true. We can do it best by all living up to the principles of our order. We ask for a total abrogation of everything that is personal. Don't let it be said that because a man did what he could to preserve his country he becomes an object of suspicion. Don't let anything but the greatest good for the greatest number interfere with our upward movement."

Killed at a Fire.
Pittsburg, Feb. 10.—There are six bodies at the morgue, one of them that of an acting captain of police, and an unknown number buried in the debris of a collapsed wall.

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BY TELEGRAPH.
SOCIALISTS PROTEST

Challenge President Gompers to Debate. Latter Calls Socialists Traitorous and Refuses.

New Bedford, Mass., Feb. 10.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, addressed a vast throng of people in the city hall last night, and the meeting was almost broken up by members of the Socialist labor party, who branded some of the speaker's assertions as false. James T. Hancock, organizer of the New Bedford section of the Socialists and a member of the spinners' executive committee, had previously issued a challenge to Gompers for a joint debate on the labor doctrines of the Socialist labor party and the American Federation of Labor, and in referring to this challenge President Gompers said at the meeting that his engagements were such that he could not find time, even if he had the inclination, to accept the challenge.

"To challenge a comrade in arms at the time of a labor contest like this," he declared, "is traitorous," and he appealed for unity among the forces of labor.

While he was declaring that there were misguided men among the Socialists, men urged on by stronger minds, Mr. Hancock, who was present, jumped up and challenged Mr. Gompers then and there. In an instant pandemonium reigned in the hall, the Socialists joining in the din, and calls of "Throw him out" were heard.

"Don't do that," said Mr. Gompers; "don't sink to his level. I know this red button brigade. You will find a Pinkerton agent, the paid hireling of the mill corporations, here Friday night to divide you against yourselves."

This was taken as a reference to Daniel De Leon, the Socialist speaker, who is to speak here Friday night, and mingled applause and hisses followed.

But Gompers continued, saying that men who would not fight together were traitors to each other, and he further appealed for unity in the ranks of labor. He was several times interrupted, and at length was forced to break off to catch his train en route to Pittsburg, Pa., where he has an engagement for tomorrow. Before leaving he announced that he would return to this city for another address later.

Several other addresses were made, among them one by Secretary Hart of the Weavers' union, who took occasion to criticize the judiciary of the state in connection with the weavers' fines test case now being tried at Taunton.

Hearing on a Fines Bill.

Boston, Feb. 10.—The committee on labor gave a hearing at the state house yesterday on the bill introduced by Representative Ross of New Bedford to prohibit the imposition of fines and relating to deductions from the wages of employees engaged in weaving. The bill is of great interest to the labor organization.

SENATORIAL ORATORY.

Resolutions on Cuba Evoked Stirring Speeches.

Misery of the Situation Depicted Graphically.

Passivity of the Administration Defended by Mr. Hale.

Washington, Feb. 10.—When the gavel to the hand of Vice President Hobart fell in announcing the opening of Wednesday's session of the senate, a noticeably larger number of senators was present than is usual so early in the day. The notice given by both Senator Cannon of Utah and Senator Mason of Illinois that they would speak upon their resolutions served as the magnet to draw senators from the committee rooms early in the session.

While Mr. Cannon was speaking a sensational incident occurred. A member of the house of representatives, standing near him, apparently denounced as a lie statements Mr. Cannon made, that every rifle in the hands of the Cuban patriots had cost them \$200. Amid considerable excitement Mr. Hale addressed the vice president, expressing the hope that the rules of the senate would be strictly observed. After quiet had been restored, Mr. Cannon, who was evidently painfully affected by his emotion, said: "I do not ordinarily object to remarks of denial concerning statements which I make on this floor. However, to a statement which I just made the audible comment was added that it was a lie. I care less, Mr. President, for the remark than for the spirit which actuated it. I reassert that it is a solemn truth that the Cuban patriots have paid \$200 for every rifle they have in use in their army. These arms have come from the United States. Every railroad and every express company and every filibustering expedition which has landed armaments of war on the island of Cuba has taken its deadly toll." After some discussion of the general features of the Cuban question, Mr. Cannon said: "I charge now that the purpose of the administration is in consonance with the wishes of the Spanish bondholders, and before peace is secured in Cuba security for the payment of that tremendous debt must be given by the bloodstained island. That is, appears to be the wish of the administration, and I may say of Spain."

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tions at this time, especially on account of the strikes in the textile industries. It has been claimed that the unfair fining of weavers under the law is one of the circumstances responsible for the present condition of affairs in the cotton mills.

The first witness in support of the legislation for the repeal of the present weavers' fines law was Eva Donald Velez of New York city, a newspaper woman, whose special work has been to look into the conditions of the operatives of New Bedford. Her observations, she said, had led her to believe that legislation should first be tried to remove unjust conditions. In the first place, she considered it unjust and unfair to impose a fine, when a fine should only be imposed by a court.

President Samuel Gompers of the Federation of Labor said that he had no technical knowledge of weaving. "It has been called to my attention that in certain mills the fines were generally imposed, while in other mills one rarely hears of a weaver being fined," said Mr. Gompers. "If I had my way, I should certainly have a law passed that would make it impossible for a corporation to fine one of its employees a cent. I would make the penalty for imperfect work discharge, and then you would find that the imperfections would very rapidly decrease." The bill proposed is to give the weaver better opportunity. This bill will tend to improve the morale of the weaver and the corporation as well. Senator Flynn of Lawrence favored a law that should prohibit fines of any kind. He believed the weavers were fined excessively and with deliberation, for the purpose of making money for the mill.

Harriet A. Pickering of New Bedford opposed the bill. She said it was the custom in New Bedford now to give weavers a notice of fines. Mrs. Pickering believed in the total abolishment of the fines system.

A Fruitless Conference.
Biddeford, Me., Feb. 10.—Yesterday afternoon a committee of members of the dressers', mule-spinners' and loom-fixers' unions called upon Agent McArthur of the Pepperell and Laconia mills to discuss the situation, looking towards a settlement of the differences which have been in progress in the cloth mills in this city. For an hour the situation was talked over, but as far as can be learned the conference resulted in no conclusion. It is understood that one proposition made by the committee was that the mills would be run for the present under a reduction of time, but under the old wage schedule. Many operatives left for Canada yesterday and today, and should the corporations decide to open their gates at once, it would probably be difficult to meet some of the departments.

There was a buzz of comment as Senator Mason arose and his resolution was read from the desk. He had hesitated long, he said, as he feared that by an incautious step he might injure rather than benefit the Cuban cause; but he was ready to take the step now, feeling that any blame must fall on him, for he assumed full, personal responsibility. "I deny the insinuation," said he sharply, "that this is an effort to put the administration in leading strings." He was a Republican, and he was proud of the patriotism of the executive, but spoke his personal convictions on the cause of Cuba. "I am charged with seeking war," exclaimed the senator, "but my resolution is for peace. One word from this administration would bring peace to this continent, and under the providence of God we believe it would bring independence to Cuba."

The thumb screws of the inquisition were again brought into use in Cuba, proceeded Mr. Mason. The pinchers that tore the flesh from human bones had contributed to the carnival of cruelty. Three hundred thousand people starved; 300,000 more were marching to the grave, and yet the cry was being raised that war was being sought, when the one and only cry was for peace and an end to this atrocity.

Mr. Hale interrupted to say that Mr. Mason's figures of those said to be dead and starving were far exaggerated and out of all proportion to the known population of the island. "Such statements are monstrous," declared Mr. Hale.

"That's what I think," interposed Mr. Mason, and again the galleries applauded vigorously.

The statement was monstrous, added Mr. Hale, in its inconsistency with the known number of people on the island. The figures given would show, he added, that one out of three of the population had died.

"Yes, and in some provinces 50 percent, or one in two," answered Mr. Mason. He said he would establish his statement by the letters of Mr. Pepper, a man recognized as conservative in his statements.

"This government ought to maintain that the horrible massacres which are now too common in Cuba and conducted under the guise of warfare," Mr. Mason went on, "must be stopped. We have no right as a neutral nation fully regardful of the rights of all to look upon such a warfare as within any reasonable construction of international law. The flag of truce has been abandoned, prisoners of war are being shot, and it is evident that no rule of warfare is being observed. The conflict has developed into a mere matter of murder on both sides—prisoners of war being shot or mangled without trial."

Anne O'Brien, aged 78 years, a Bangor, Me., widow, fell downstairs at her home and died in three hours.

Dress Suits

are as essential as the business suit and it makes a big difference where you buy them, both with reference to the fit and and price. Cutting-made Dress Suits are at the head and have no superiors for style, fit and finish. Prices are \$25, 30, 35 and 40.

And Furnishings

one and all are here at your command. Dress Shirts, Shields, Neckwear, Collars and Cuffs, Studs and Links, Handkerchiefs, Suit Cases, etc. Prepare now for the coming festivities.

SPECIAL TODAY is 20 doz heavy 50c fleeced underwear for 40c. Wool and worsted 25c half-hose at 2 for 25c.

C. H. Cutting & Co.
Wholesale Retailers—Cutting Corner.

Ralph M. Dowlin
Harnesses, Horse Clothing, Collars, Halters. REPAIRING A SPECIALTY.
Shoes and Rubbers Of all styles for all ages. GYMNASIUM SHOES 121 Main Street.

Here's an Opportunity!

Ashland Street Lot,
52 feet on the street, 93 feet on the Boston & Albany railroad, 150 feet deep. Right price Right terms.

Harvey A. Gallup,
BOLAND BLOCK, NORTH ADAMS, MASS
Every description of Insurance.

Your collars when you want them!

In other words—PROMPT DELIVERY. When your name is once on our driver's list he'll call for and deliver your laundry work regularly without a skip or miss. You get good work here and good service.

Custom Hand Laundry.
A. E. ELLIS, Proprietor.
Rear of Lonergan & Bissall's. Telephone 241-4.

Young Man Dress Up

Don't be a dude, but look well. It pays. No reason either, why you shouldn't, with good, stylish, well tailored clothes to be had at these prices:

SUITS—15, 16, 18, 20, and \$25.
TROUSERS—3.50, 4, 5, 6, 7, and \$8.

Made to order and perfect satisfaction guaranteed,

American Tailor, 31 Eagle St.

ALL COFFEE - -

That is, Coffee that is nothing but Coffee—the pure, unadulterated, untampered with, carefully grown berry. Such Coffee is the **WHITE HOUSE** brand sold by us for 37 cents and the equal of any 40c Coffee in town. Our 25c Coffee is another good quality. Worth every cent of the price. Pure kettle-rendered leaf lard in one, three and five pound tins; perfect for cooking.

CITY CASH GROCERY,
Corner Main and Marshall. F. E. BENSON, Prop.

AT WILLIAMSTOWN

A Young Woman's Enterprise—Postmaster Eldridge on Duty—Reception to Dr. Haynes—Chess in the High School—The Grange to Entertain.

Postmaster Eldridge on Duty.
Bushnell Danforth of New York is in town for a day or two, and on Wednesday he transferred the business of the post-office to the new postmaster, James A. Eldridge, who is now on duty. This is the close of Mr. Danforth's second term as postmaster, he having been appointed by President Cleveland each time. It is also the beginning of Mr. Eldridge's second term, he having been appointed by President Harrison. Mr. Danforth has given good satisfaction in the management of the office and retires with the good will of all. The office was well conducted by Mr. Eldridge during his first term and in appointing him President McKinley makes no experiment. N. B. Town, formerly assistant postmaster, succeeds Elmer Walden in that position. He has had about eight years experience and is perfectly familiar with his duties, which will be attended to in a business-like manner. Mr. Walden has held the position for nearly seven years and has given his superiors and the public most satisfactory service. Joseph Quinn, who has served as clerk for about two years, will be retained.

A Young Woman's Enterprise.

It is said on pretty good authority that a young woman in this town whose name is not made known at present is preparing to join the Klondike army. The woman is said to be well educated and possessed of considerable means. She has traveled quite extensively and knows how to take care of herself away from home. According to the rumor it is her intention to start in a few weeks, go to the Klondike, stake out a few claims and manage them personally, hiring the work done. She will not be the first woman to do this, but so far as known, she will be the first to go from this section. The young woman is said to have lately been in Boston procuring an outfit and necessary data, and the report concerning her going is believed to be true, though few people in town know who she is. The facts will come out in due time and there will be much interest in the fortunes of the young woman who is brave enough to engage in such an adventurous undertaking.

The Grange to Entertain.

Green River grange will entertain its members and many others next Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Cora Galusha between Sweet's Corners and South Williamstown. A load will be taken from Blackinton by W. H. Gove, and F. H. Daniels and John F. Prindle will take loads from this village. Supper will be served and the price of the ride and supper will be only 25 cents. There will be games and dancing and all who go will be sure to have a good time.

Reception to Dr. Haynes.

An informal reception was tendered Wednesday afternoon at the home of N. F. Smith on Park street to Dr. J. Henry Haynes, the famous archaeological explorer. Dr. Haynes after graduating from Williams college was for some time principal of the high school here and the reception was given by his former pupils. It was a very pleasant occasion.

Chess in the High School.

Edwin Bridges, a chess enthusiast, has formed a class in the high school and is teaching the game to his fellow students. They play about an hour after the close of school every day and are making good progress. The game is being played by about a dozen boys and as many girls.

Rev. Theodore Sedgwick's illustrated lecture will be delivered Wednesday evening, February 16.

Samuel Starkweather has begun painting the interior of the new high school house.

A four-horse sleigh load of young people took a ride to Adams Wednesday night and had a very pleasant outing. There has been a party at the Idlewild every evening this week so far and there is one booked for each evening the remainder of the week. Business is exceedingly good at this popular resort.

St. John's choir, the Young People's society and the Kings Daughters rode to the Idlewild Wednesday night and had supper. The trip was greatly enjoyed by the entire party.

The snow has wasted rapidly for two or three days past and the sleighing is getting thin in places.

Cecil Bradford expects to leave for Michigan next week.

Letters are advertised at the postoffice for H. F. Bann, Art Bellingham, John Conway, Esq., Mrs. Amanda Tomson, Harvie Whipple, Ernest Williams, Miss Lizzie Boyle, Anna Reno and E. E. Russell.

The second entertainment in the Thompson course will be given in Goodrich hall Friday evening and will consist of readings by F. Hopkinson Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wisner were surprised at their home in Riverside Tuesday evening by a company of neighbors and friends who passed a few hours very pleasantly with games, dancing and refreshments.

Donald Jerome, who is studying in the Tibbits school at Hootick, N. Y., is in town for a few days.

About 35 young men from this town, most of them students, attended Miss Sheldon's dancing school and reception in North Adams Wednesday evening.

There will be a pleasing entertainment in the opera house this evening, when the operetta, "Gyp, Jr.," will be rendered by the children of St. Patrick's Sunday school under the direction of Miss Frances Piper. The program will be well rendered and will doubtless be enjoyed by a large audience.

Henry Spooner has begun repairs on the little building on his place on Spring street, which will be converted into a tenement.

Joseph Guitbo will in a few days begin the work of concreting the cellar bottom of the new high school house.

Miss Edith Blake, a student in the North Adams normal school, is sick with the mumps. The disease has had a remarkable run in town, but has pretty nearly passed by, few new cases now being reported.

Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Hull, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Torrey and son, J. Frank, Simpson Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Allen and several others from this town were in Berlin, N. Y., today to attend the funeral of Alexander Allen, whose sudden death was noticed in Wednesday's TRANSCRIPT.

"Calnan's" "Hudson Club" cigars, 5c.

"We have a fine supply of sorted hard wood, both saved and cut. Call with or telephone. T. W. Richmond's coal and wood."

To Cure Headache in 15 Minutes. Take Dr. Davis' Anti-Headache. All druggists.

AFTER SOME SCALPS.

THE PROPOSED LAW AGAINST RAILWAY TICKET BROKERS.

Pro and Con of a Live Problem—The Railroads Favor the Bill, but the Ubiquitous Drummer Opposes It—Gossip From the National Capital.

[Special Correspondence]
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—There are some large sized thunderclouds still hanging over the capital as the debate progresses over the annexation of Hawaii and the proposed antiscaling law against the ticket brokers.

These two questions, though at first sight so divergent, yet appeal to the people, each in a different way—one in a political sense, the other as a personal matter. Hawaii is now being debated in executive sessions and is beyond the ken of the people, but the proposed antiscaling law is now being tried on its merits. I do not think I am at fault when I state it as my conviction that this latter subject will sooner or later cause a great disturbance. As many view it, it is a fight between the people and the railroads—that is, ultimately. At present the matter is a nutshell is an attempt by the railroads to secure the abolishment of the ticket brokers, otherwise known as "scalpers."

These latter are now posing as the friends of the people, because through them the public can generally purchase tickets to various points at lesser rates than they can through the authorized agents of the railroads themselves. The scalpers claim that they stand between the public and extortion. The railroads claim that but for the scalpers they could afford to sell tickets at lower rates and if the brokers were abolished the public would get the benefit of the large commissions of the latter.

Demoralizing to the Drummers. But would they? Would the railroads give the public the benefit of all, or even of half, the commissions saved to themselves by the extermination of these middlemen? The scalpers echo the question, "Would they?" And then they "wink the other eye," as much as to say it will be a long day before the railroads voluntarily yield up a goodly portion of their receipts for the good of the "dear



public." On the other hand, the railroads declare the brokers to be mere parasites, with no other aim in life than to benefit themselves, and who are only incidentally and occasionally of service to the people. They have taken the high moral ground that such a business is in itself demoralizing, and in this view

After coughs and colds the germs of consumption often gain a foothold.

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites will not cure every case; but, if taken in time, it will cure many.

Even when the disease is farther advanced, some remarkable cures are effected. In the most advanced stages it prolongs life, and makes the days far more comfortable. Everyone suffering from consumption needs this food tonic.

50c. and \$1.00, all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.



ONE ENJOYS
Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

generally coincide with them the great "merchants' associations" of New York and Chicago, who have sent their attorneys hither to plead for the passage of the bill. They urge that it is demoralizing to their traveling men, or drummers, who spend the time they ought to use in forwarding their legitimate business in running around looking for cheap tickets when they are provided by their employers with ample means for first class travel.

Said one of them: "The first crooked step of the drummer generally begins in the shop of the ticket broker. As a legal proposition it should be remembered that so long as the government regulates the railroad tariffs it should at the same time guarantee reasonable protection to its receipts."

That is the gist of the matter, and the problem for the interstate commerce committee, before whom the subject is now having a hearing, is to control the railroads, squelch the scalpers and at the same time to protect the people. The question is complicated by many collateral ones and side issues, and if they succeed in giving satisfaction to all concerned they will have accomplished a task worthy of praise.

The members of the interstate commerce committee who are now giving both sides a hearing are: Senator Colton, chairman; Aldrich, Chandler, Chilton, Elkins, Gear, Gorman, Lindsey, Smith, Tillman, Wolcott. Their evident disposition, as evinced at the several meetings of the committee, is to be fair and impartial, and they have given both sides careful attention and courteous treatment. I was impressed with this fact during my attendance at some of the meetings and came away with the feeling that, whichever way the matter should be decided, the various conflicting interests would have due regard.

While, however, some of the senators have not expressed an opinion as to the respective merits of the controversy, others are on record as for or against one side or the other. For example, Senator Tillman, the stalwart ex-governor of South Carolina, is most pronouncedly against the railroads, as shown by his outspoken championship of the brokers and his previous declarations in public. I met him after one of the meetings, in which the representative of the brokers had apparently refuted a statement of the railroad men, and he said, in answer to a question, "Sir, somebody has been lying, and we are going to subvert the whole crowd and find out who it is."

Heads the Opposition. On the other hand, if we may judge by the leading questions to witnesses, the forefront of the opposition is an equally stalwart and outspoken senator, Stephen B. Elkins from West Virginia. One may have his convictions and even prejudices and at the same time not allow them to sway him from a just decision, and doubtless of such a character is Senator Elkins. I was present when he expressed great surprise—as well he might—at the testimony of the ticket brokers' representative, Mr. G. M. McKenzie of Chicago, who so far has borne the brunt of the severe questioning with placid equanimity and has apparently answered all queries truthfully and honestly.

He had, at a previous meeting, stated that but for the railroads themselves—but for the collusion of their agents—the brokers could not do a profitable business; that full 90 per cent of their business came from the general agents, and not from casual travelers.

This assertion having been promptly met by the agents of the railroad lines, he offered to prove it by producing affidavits from brokers and checks signed by agents of various lines. This he did, and it was in questioning Mr. McKenzie subsequently that the senator elicited the astounding information that the witness himself had done a business in Chicago which for several years had averaged \$800,000 per year! When pressed to declare his percentage of profit, he reluctantly stated that it was probably 5 per cent, at least his last year's profits were \$30,000! "No wonder," exclaimed Senator Elkins, "you are fighting the bill so hard!" He then asked why it was, if 90 per cent of the total business was done with the roads, that they should desire this bill. Mr. McKenzie answered that there were many roads that did not desire the bill. He further stated that, according to his calculations, if the antiscaling law should go into effect it would cost the traveling public of the United States an average of \$5,875,000 per year, based upon an estimate that the brokers sold 30 per cent of the tickets in use and that they save their customers an average of about 12 per cent.

Now there are, of course, two sides to this question of "scalping." In the first place, the railroads declare that they should have, and that they have, the undoubted right to manage their own business in their own way; that the scalpers have no more right to sell their tickets than any other body of men has to sell another's groceries or dry goods. They also claim that many of the alleged tickets are forged or stolen and could not be sold but for the interposition of the scalpers. They claim that millions are annually lost to them which but for the brokers might go to the people, or at least be shared with them.

On the other hand, the brokers point to the millions they have saved to the traveling public by compelling the roads to make fair rates, which they would not otherwise have done. There is no doubt, they say, that the sympathies of the people are with them as against the railroads, since, say what we will, our feelings are oftenest touched through our pocketbooks.

Meanwhile there are many signs that the people all over the country are becoming interested, as manifested by numerous petitions. The Traveling Men's associations, representing the drummers, are as opposed to the bill as the Merchants' associations are in favor of it. Even the unclassified masses have taken the matter up, and only yesterday the colored people of this District declared themselves as unalterably opposed to an antiscaling bill by holding an enthusiastic meeting in opposition at the lovely Zion church. The "sense of the meeting" was as stated, even though the alert railway men captured it by sending one of their most eloquent speakers, who made a strong argument for the bill and against the scalpers.

The Brokers' Representative. The representative of the brokers is, as stated, Mr. G. M. McKenzie, who has headquarters at the Metropolitan, while the railroads have united under the leadership of Mr. Daniels of the New York Central and have opened an "antiscaling bureau of information" at the Shoreham and are "putting up a big fight."

I presume it is no secret that most of us who have traveled had at some time or another availed ourselves of the scalpers' wonderful fund of information. I saw a man exhibit a 1,000 mile book on a train one day which he said he had purchased from the ticket agent of the road we were on through an order from the local broker. More than that, he had paid the scalper for only 500 miles, and the broker trusted him to return the remainder of the book by mail without any guarantee whatever.

Another traveler told me that he purchased a round trip ticket to the Pacific coast not long ago with the understanding that if he used it only going west there would be a refund of cost, less full rate one way. Finding when he reached his destination that tickets east were one-half what his cost, he applied to a broker who advanced him the price of a ticket to Chicago and trusted him until he received his rebate (three months) without any other security than his word, which was to the effect that he would divide profits with the broker.

It is probably because they are such acute judges of human nature and take sure risks on the "right people" that the 400 members of the Ticket Brokers' association have become so wealthy and so powerful that they dare to fight the railroads.

A correspondent of The Lancet writes that scarlet fever in the east is not only not the scourge it is in Europe, but is extremely rare in both Asia and Africa.

RAILWAY TIES.

The first street railway in America started on the Bowery, New York, and ran from Prince street to Fourteenth street, in 1831.

The most costly piece of railway line in the world is that between the Mansion House and Aldgate stations in London, which required the expenditure of close upon £2,000,000 a mile.

Brussels, being obliged to have an elevated railroad to connect the stations at opposite ends of the city, is going to build it 180 feet from the ground on ornamental pillars, with a glass roof beneath to protect the street below.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Regular meetings of the Board of Health will be held at their office in City Hall every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Office hours of the Agent of the Board of Health from 10.30 a. m. to 12 m. and from 1.30 until 3 p. m.

COASTING NOTICE.

The commissioner of public works, J. H. Emigh, has set aside the following streets on which coasting will be permitted: Hall, Meadow, Lawrence avenue, East Brooklyn, Walnut, south of corner, East Main, east of Kemp avenue and Dover street.

J. H. EMIGH,
Commissioner of Public Works.

NOTICE.

The Commissioner of Public Works will be at his office each week day from 10 to 11 a. m. and 4 to 5 p. m.
J. H. EMIGH,
Commissioner of Public Works.

NORTH ADAMS

Savings Bank

Established 1848. 73 Main St. adjoining Adams National Business Bureau 3 a. m. to 4 p. m. Saturday till 6 p. m.
President, A. C. Broughton, Treasurer, V. A. Whitaker, Vice-Presidents, William Burton, G. L. Rice, W. H. Gaylord, Trustees, A. C. Broughton, William Burton, G. L. Rice, W. A. Gallup, R. S. Wilkinson, H. T. Cady, O. H. Cutting, V. A. Whitaker, W. H. Gaylord, W. R. Sperry, Arthur Robinson, N. L. Millard, F. A. Wilcoxson.
Board of Investment, G. L. Rice, W. T. Cady, F. A. Wilcoxson.

A GENERAL AGENCY
An old-time Life Insurance for their liberal policy is prepared to make a first-class re-arrangement for a General Agency for this and adjoining Counties, and a branch, wide awake and active gentlemen with or without experience, to give whole or part time. Address "General Agency," P. O. Box 70, Hartford Conn.

CEYLON AND INDIA TEA.

Is used to the extent of more than FIFTY PER CENT of the entire quantity of tea consumed in the civilized world.

DIRECTIONS—Take half usual quantity. See water BOILS. Steep FIVE minutes.

The Celebrated B. & B. India and Ceylon TEAS.

PURITAN. KNICKERBOCKER. COLUMBIA. B. & B. (Green Packet.)

LIPTON'S Ceylon-India TEAS

"Are the finest the world produces." In sealed packages. Put up by the grower.

For Sale By E. G. Blackinton & Co., W. H. Reynolds, Brown & O'Connor, H. A. Sherman & Co., North Adams Co-operative association, R. Darrow.

Pyrocure Cures Piles!

HOW ARE YOU TO BELIEVE IT? If you have suffered from this annoying complaint, you have heard this promised before. Probably tried countless remedies, all with the same result—disappointment. Try one more.

Try Pyrocure

Investigate beforehand. Read the letters printed below. Talk with the men who wrote them and then buy a bottle if convinced. For years it has been performing permanent cures in this vicinity. It is the remedy you want, depend upon it. PURELY VEGETABLE AND ENTIRELY HARMLESS.

Strong Words from Local People.

NORTH ADAMS, MASS., Dec. 26, 1895
The Pyrocure Company,
GENTS:—I most gladly state to you the great benefit I have received from the use of your Pyrocure. I have been a great sufferer from Piles for years. I procured one bottle of your Pyrocure, and I can most sincerely say to you am entirely cured and I most earnestly wish all troubled as I have been might know of its beneficial effects.
Yours truly,
A. H. PATTERSON.
NORTH ADAMS, MASS., Jan. 28, 1896
The Pyrocure Company,
GENTS:—I take pleasure in certifying to the merits of Pyrocure having used it for Catarrh and Piles, also for galls, sore back and scratches on horses. It is surely a very valuable remedy.
J. H. FLAGG.

For Sale at

NORTH ADAMS: Wilson House Drug Store, Rice's Drug Store and Hastings' Drug Store. ADAMS: Thompson's, Mole's and Riley's Drug Stores. WILLIAMSTOWN: Severance's and Chamber's Drug Stores, and A. E. Hall's Store. NORTH POWNAL: S. L. Smith's Store. WILLINGTON: Ware's Store, C. H. Parmelee.

The Pyrocure Co.

North Adams, Mass.

BEFORE

Sending our stock of second-hand wheels away to make room for our thirty new sample wheels, we offer them to our patrons at unheard of prices.

The best of them have been newly enameled and put in fine condition. They will be cleared out in the next two weeks for cash. Call and hear our ten dollar Graphophone.

Berkshire

CYCLE COMPANY.
C. H. Hubbard, Manager.
92 Main Street.—Hosack Court.

MACHINERY.

Shutting, Tapers, Pulleys, and Couplings. Machinery of all sizes from 2 1/2 inches diameter down to 36 inches diameter, cut any length, always in stock. Cold Rolled Rounds, Squares, Flats, Hexagons, Octagons, Decagons, and all shapes first-class to exact sizes. Everything in readiness to be shipped at once. Our goods are without a rival and our prices the lowest of all. Telephone 115, South Boston.
COMPRESSED STEEL SHAFTING WORKS,
South Boston, Mass.

RUPTURE

STRENGTHENING
S. J. SHERMAN, Rupture Specialist, 311 Vermont St. N. Y.

GO. FLORIDA

To FLORIDA Via Plant System

BY RAIL. Quickest time and finest train service.

including Tampa Bay Limited and Florida Special. Solid trains from New York. Direct connection from Boston and New England points.

OR WATER. The Savannah Line.

Daily from New York (except Sunday). Wednesday from Boston direct. Tickets via New York look income passenger and baggage transfer.

A Trip to Florida not complete without a visit to the West Coast and the Magnificent Hotels of the Plant System.

SENT FREE. Maps, time tables, steamer schedules and hotel circulars on receipt of postal card. For 4c. in stamps, 64-page booklet, Florida, Cuba, Jamaica, freely till.

J. A. FLANDERS, N. E. Agent, Savannah Ga.

E. W. WHEAT, Pass. Traffic Manager, Savannah Ga.

ABSOLUTELY PERFECT



THE CAREFUL HOUSEWIFE WILL USE NO OTHER.

Life Insurance

If you would avoid the increasing cost of the old-fashioned post mortem assessment plan as well as the excessive cost of Old Line Insurance, insure with the

Greenfield

LIFE ASSOCIATION. Greenfield, Mass. Policy contracts are liberal, concise and just. E. A. SALLI, Pres. F. C. MORTON, Sec.

Good Homes and

Splendid Investments

Among the bargains I have for sale I would particularly call attention to the following: a room house and 1 1/2 acres of land on Rich view avenue. Good lots on Ashland and Davenport streets. (year) other desirable investments on other parts of the city.

E. J. CARY, 30 Ashland Street.

Real Estate Bought and Sold.

Buckwheat Flour...

Both plain and prepared. best quality and fresh. To go with it, new and pure Maple Syrup, direct from the best Vermont "sugar bushes."

White & Smith,

City agents for Shaker brand.

DAILY—Issued every afternoon (except Sunday) at four o'clock; 12 cents a week, 50 cents a month, \$2 a year.
WEEKLY—Issued every Thursday morning, \$1 a year in advance.

BY THE
TRANSCRIPT PUBLISHING COMPANY,
H. G. ROWE, Pres. C. T. FAIRFIELD, Treas.

THE TRANSCRIPT BUILDING, BANK STREET,
NORTH ADAMS, MASS.

I know not what record of sin awaits me in the other world; but this I do know; that I never was so mean as to despise a man because he was poor, because he was ignorant, or because he was black.
—John A. Andrew.

MEMBERS ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The latest telegraphic dispatches from all parts of the world are received exclusively by THE TRANSCRIPT up to the hour of going to press.

"WE HOLD THE WESTERN GATEWAY."

From the Seal of the city of North Adams.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEB. 10, '98.

Advertisers in THE TRANSCRIPT are the best business men in this community. Their advertisements are worth reading, and they are the firms with whom to trade most advantageously.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

With this issue of THE TRANSCRIPT, H. G. Rowe, the writer, of these words announces his engagement to a new field of activity and the severance of his connection with THE TRANSCRIPT. After more than three years of pleasant relations with this town and city and when only the best feeling and good will exists among all members of THE TRANSCRIPT "family," writing the farewell word to the friends and readers of this paper is a matter of real regret. The newspaper man involuntarily comes to feel that every reader of his paper is his friend in some degree, and toward each one he cherishes a warm feeling. And so a parting in the newspaper field is one that embraces many and is always an unpleasant task to the retiring editor. Therefore it may be brief.

But one reflection we should like to make. It was in August, 1894, that the writer's connection with this paper began. That was but a little time ago measured on the leaves of a calendar. But Judge Robinson was then contributing an occasional editorial philippic of that old editorial school that has passed away, not only in Western Massachusetts, but in the whole Union. The three years and a half have marked an absolute change in the newspaper work of this city—a change brought about by the change in North Adams itself. The people of this city demand something very different from their newspapers than they did a half dozen years ago, when there was no daily paper here, and when editorial, and even news matter, in the local paper were largely made up of matters concerning national or state affairs. There has been marked evolution in the newspaper tastes of the people of North Adams within four years. As noted by a fellow editor at a small newspaper gathering in this city last evening—North Adams has seen during the past three years the most eventful years in its history and the greatest changes,—it has changed from a town to a city in more respects than form of government alone, and the newspapers have been inevitably changed with the city. And while the writer's own brief history here touches back to that of Judge Robinson and his stately periods, it also has come into a new phase that is as foreign to the old one as day is unlike night. The change has suffered newspaperdom to lose much, but at the same time newspaperdom is nearer the people for that change, and is what the people demand and need.

THE TRANSCRIPT will now be under the management of C. T. Fairfield, for whom the writer can only speak the best word as friend and man whose success in the past promises his success here. W. S. Ball, who has been in charge of the local editorship of the paper for some time and who came here from the Springfield Republican where he was highly esteemed will with Mr. Fairfield conduct the editorial work of the paper, and personally we vouch for the fact that it will be in most excellent and able hands.

For the writer's own part, he goes to a new field because he believes an opportunity presents itself that it would be unwise not to embrace. For a time at least it will take him into a life where axes and foot rules, and not pens, are the tools, and where the skies are his roof and the woods his home, all of which to him is most enjoyable. His immediate address will be somewhere between the Penobscot river and Quebec, with a large lumbering concern that eventually, he hopes, may find use for him in the city and forest alike.

The Banda Rossa which played in North Adams sometime ago is reported as stranded and some of the musicians joined New York's snow shovel brigade in the recent big storm.

One-fourth of the cotton spindles of the country are now located in the south, which in 1880 had but one-fifth of the total number. No wonder the protection sentiment is rapidly growing in that section.

The savings banks of the states which voted against the Teller resolution have \$900,000,000 on deposit, while those of the states which voted for the resolution have but \$200,000,000. Further comment is unnecessary.

A bill has been introduced in the state legislature by Representative Johnson of Worcester which provides that the verdict of 10 out of the 12 men on a jury shall decide in all civil cases. This is a law that is in force in other states and is said to be a success.

Statistician B. W. Snow of Chicago estimates that the value of the farm animals of the country has increased \$150,-

The prediction that the enactment of a protective tariff law would reduce the foreign market for our manufacturers has not been realized. The exportation of manufactured articles since the enactment of the Dingley law is greater than in the corresponding months of last year under the Wilson law and amounts to \$113,000,000 for the first five months of the operations of the Dingley law.

How do people who are insisting that there has been no improvement in business conditions since the election of President McKinley account for the fact that the bank clearings of 72 cities in the United States were 33 per cent. greater in January, 1898, than they were in January, 1897, 30 per cent. greater than they were in January 1896; 37 per cent. greater than in January 1895, and 45 per cent. greater than in January 1894?

"The only way to save your money is to watch the newspapers and get down town early in the morning for the real cheap things." Thus spoke a thrifty housewife who had missed by five minutes a bargain in underwear. There is a great deal of homely political economy in the words. It is not enough to read the advertisements; they must be acted on early, for advertising is so effective nowadays that it sweeps out in a few hours the stocks which in olden times would have lingered for days.—Bangor News.

Hundreds of Democratic newspapers and every Republican newspaper of the country are commending President McKinley's utterances on the money question. The unanimity of expression among all advocates of sound money and all opponents of the 16-to-1 policy in commendation of the president's ringing declarations is remarkable, in view of the large number of Democratic organs which join with those of the Republican party in their cordial expressions in support of the president's attitude.

The promptness of the mayor in fixing a hearing for Mr. Krum on the charges brought against him has been commended. The policy of the mayor in making the hearing private has been somewhat criticised. The occurrences at the police station on which the charges rested were made public at the times when they happened. For this reason, if for no other, it should have seemed advisable to have the hearing public. In justice to Mr. Krum, the public should be allowed to know his defense, and in justice to Chief Kendall, who preferred the charges, there should be no opportunity made for the friends of the keeper to claim that there was anything but the most public treatment of the matter. Private hearings on questions of public importance are usually to be regretted.

In what THE TRANSCRIPT has had to say about the number of studies and system of instruction in our public schools there has been no intended criticism of the school officers and teachers. The criticism has been of the modern school system and not of the school officers. We believe our own public schools are well and ably conducted. But we also believe that there is a great deal of time given to "frills" that could better be given to practical studies. A great many people are thinking the same thing. We could instance one boy in our public schools who reported at home a day or two since that he had had a "regular snap" in school that day with painting in the forenoon and manual training in the afternoon and that was all. The moral would appear to be obvious.

THE TRANSCRIPT heartily shares the following sentiment expressed by the Pittsfield Eagle: "The newspaper fraternity, not only in Pittsfield but throughout western Massachusetts, will sympathize with Mr. Harding, the editor of the Pittsfield Sun, because of the death of his wife, the one above all others dear to his heart and who has been his faithful and sympathetic supporter through years of joys and sorrows. Mr. Harding during the many years of his married life has been a home man and found his greatest pleasures and comforts about his own hearthstone, so that his present bereavement will fall heavily upon him. May his present bereavement be tempered by the knowledge that a host of friends would share his sorrow, if such a thing were possible. But alas, when we are led up to the Great Mystery, we stand, as far as human help goes, quite alone."

THE HORSE SHOW.

Redina, 2:15½, is queen of the road on the South Side drives of Chicago. There is a green 4-year-old, by Egthorne, owned in New York state, that has shown 2:17½.

Theodore Shelton, 3-year-old record 2:12½, the brother of John R. Gentry, will probably be raced this year.

Fred Keyes, the well known trainer at Forest City farm, Cleveland, recently refused a tempting offer to go abroad.

Colonel Redmon, raced in the slow classes in eastern Pennsylvania last year, turns out to have been Happy Rouben, 2:24½.

L. V. Harkness will probably renew the Walnut Hall cup, which he offered for 2:17 trotters at the Kentucky breeders' meeting last fall.

The yearling brother to Ethel Downs, 2:10, by Boodie, 2:12½, out of Nutwood Wilkes, by Nutwood, has been named General Montgomery.

O. M. Keats, the Kansas trainer who gave Pansy McGregor a yearling record of 2:24½ at Holton in 1893, has a very promising string of youngsters in training.

"General" Turner drove the 2-year-old filly Beluka, by Potential, out of the dam of Fanny Wilcox, 2:10½, a half in 1:13 last year. He expects her to make a crack.

George West has succeeded in converting Packet, 2:19½, to the pacing gait, and he is taking his work at the new gait very kindly without hobbles, boots or shoes.

The last foal of the famous brood mare Sprite, dam of Sphinx, Egotist and Electric, was a chestnut filly, foaled in 1896, by Monoco, 2:19½, son of Electioneer. She has been named Espirita.—Horse Review.

Hood's Pills
Are much in little; Always ready, efficient, and satisfactory; prevent colds or fever, cure all liver ills, sick headache, jaundice, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

BLISS TAKES THE PALM

Amazes Washington With His Magnificent Cabinet Dinner.

COST EIGHTY DOLLARS A PLATE.

No Such Lavishness Ever Before Seen at the Capital—Other Costly Entertainments—A Brilliant Social Season—A Reception After 10 in the Evening.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—[Special.]—Social entertaining is becoming more and more expensive in Washington. Some years ago we thought high water mark had been touched in the lavish entertainments given by the then secretary of the navy, Mr. Whitney, and his most popular wife. Later their splendid dinners and receptions were rivaled by those given by the postmaster general in the Harrison administration, Mr. Wanamaker. But this winter has seen every record eclipsed. The palm for expensive and luxurious entertaining now belongs to Mr. Bliss, the rich merchant of New York who is secretary of the interior in the McKinley cabinet. As a rule Mr. Bliss cares little for society. Mrs. Bliss is of the same mind, and they do not concern themselves very much about the ordinary run of receptions and teas. But we have in this capital a certain established social institution, known as the cabinet dinners to the president and his wife. Each member of the cabinet, in turn, and always according to the order of precedence as fixed by the presidential succession act, entertains the president and his wife, the other members of the cabinet and their wives and such outside guests as he may wish to have.

When it came Secretary Bliss' turn to give the cabinet dinner, he concluded to make it a memorable affair. He gave carte blanche to the proprietor of the largest hotel here. Expense was not to be considered, but the most beautiful dinner ever seen in Washington was to be provided, no matter at what cost. The result was equal to the expectations and ambitions of the secretary. When the guests arrived, they found a great hall room converted into a perfect forest of green trees and shrubbery and flowers. It was as if one had stepped in a moment from the rigors of our northern winter—and a cold season added to the height of the summer—to the balmy air of southern Florida or Cuba, with its palms, roses and singing birds. Interspersed among the fountains and the foliage were innumerable electric lights, and in the nooks and crannies of this artificial forest the guests could wander and easily imagine themselves in fairy land. At the edge of the improvised and most fragrant woods the table was spread and heaped with flowers and beautiful decorations, to say nothing of a menu as elaborate as art could provide. I have heard that this dinner, at which 60 persons sat down, cost the secretary of the interior about \$4,000, or \$80 per plate.

Some people may say that such luxury is a shameful waste of money, but there is a difference of opinion on this score. Most of the expense was for labor—the work of men cutting shrubs and ferns in the forest, the work of florists growing flowers, the work of decorators putting all in order, the waiters, cooks and caterers. The thousands of dollars spent by Mr. Bliss found their way into many pockets, and no doubt into the pockets of not a few persons who sadly needed them.

Other Expensive Entertainments. There have been many other expensive and beautiful entertainments here this winter—more than ever before in the history of the city. Other cabinet officers have given splendid dinners to the president and Mrs. McKinley. The balls given by Mrs. Leiter and by the British ambassador were affairs to be remembered for many days. President Dole of Hawaii has left Washington after a round of dinners and receptions given in honor of himself and his wife which must have opened the eyes of those simple, good, missionary people from the faraway Pacific islands.

Among the really fashionable people in Washington the tendency is more and more to dinners as the most satisfactory form of social entertainment. Receptions and teas are said to be too scanty. No one gets to talk with anyone more than a couple of minutes, and the hurried nature of such affairs appears to wind every one up in a sort of maze of excitement which wears and does not please. The dinner, on the other hand, admits of something handsome in the way of decoration. It enables one to limit his guests. It affords repose and gives real pleasure. There are so many dinners here now that busy public men like Vice President Hobart and Senators Allison and Elkins and Speaker Reed and others who are popular dinner guests on account of their wit and vivacity are compelled to limit the number of invitations which they accept.

"Why, if I were to attend all the dinners to which I am invited," says Senator Elkins, "I wouldn't have a bit of time left to do anything else. I have made it an ironclad rule to go out only twice a week. I want to keep up my acquaintance with my family, and I also want to do a little work." Speaker Reed is a much sought man at dinners, because his bright sayings are in great demand. People like to be able to say to their friends, "At a dinner last night I sat near Mr. Reed, and this is one of the good things he said between courses." But Mr. Reed does not much care for dinners and accepts very few invitations.

Late Hours. In these dispatches I have already referred to the late hour of the Washington society. The most striking odd thing in the line of late hours I have heard of was the notice which appeared in the society columns of a morning paper a few days ago. It read:

"Mrs. Blank of 4114 X street will not be at home Saturday night till after 10 o'clock."

This lady belongs to the ultra fashionable circle and lives in one of the finest houses in Washington. She meant that after 10 o'clock Saturday night she would be pleased to see her friends, and as a matter of fact her drawing rooms were thronged that night till about 2 o'clock in the morning. It is not easy for those of us who have the old fashioned country ideas to get accustomed to this London style of converting day into night.

This is the harvest season for coachmen and livery stable keepers. I know one man who owns eight carriages, every one of which is let by the month to a society man or woman who poses as the owner of an elegant equipage. Two or three of these hired carriages are adorned with the crests of the hirers.

WALTER WELLMAN.

If China manages to save anything from the mix up, she will do well to invest it in war vessels.—Washington Post.

China appears to be granting concessions for all the features of a first class Midway excepting the Irish village.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

When England and Japan set out to protect China from Germany and Russia, the Celestial empire will pray to be delivered from its friends.—Kansas City Times.

The ambitious Japanese may be pardoned for contemplating in retirement the confoundment whether it was worth while to whip China for the satisfaction of the European earth hunger.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

CURTAIN RAISERS.

Lydia Yeomans Titus has dropped the Yeomans from her name. Alice Neilson will be placed at the head of a comic opera company.

Marie Blauhard has gone on a professional tour of South America. The daughter of Judge McAdam of New York is to go on the professional stage.

Three short plays by Alice Gates Grant will be tried soon at a matinee in New York.

Mary Anderson-Navarro publishes again her intention to stay off the stage the rest of her life.

Elita Proctor Oels is to revive "Oliver Twist," in which she has played Nancy Sikes before.

Maurice Barrymore has gone into vaudeville with Augustus Thomas' short piece, "A Man of the World."

Minnie Seligman has engaged Frank Lender as the leading actor in her company for the vaudevilles.

A tour of the low priced theaters is to be made by "A Ward of France" and the high priced actors are therefore released.

Charles Pops, long a Shakespearean actor and reciter, has retired from the stage into commercial business. He held a scholarly place in the profession.

A. B. Sloane, composer of the music for "Jack and the Beanstalk," has gone into partnership with J. G. Saville, and their first output will be "All in the Family," a musical comedy.

Anita Vivanti Chartres is the authoress of "That Man," which A. M. Palmer will produce; "Her Ladyship," which is to be used at the Casino, and "Good and Evil," which Eleonora Duse has accepted.

THE BEEHIVE.

Adjusting boards should be used in hives of all weak stocks. Do not brood drones in the same colony selected for queens.

Dampness in hives in winter is a most damaging thing to bees.

Hives covered with snow are in the best possible winter quarters.

Unsealed brood should always occupy the center of the brood nest.

Bees nurtured indoors should be allowed to remain as quiet as possible.

Colonies having defective queens are always the foundation of trouble.

The less increase we allow the larger will be the honey crop next season.

The supply of drones depends entirely on the amount of drone comb furnished.

Colonies selected for breeding should contain a good supply of drone comb.

Colonies selected for breeders should be pushed by early feeding to their utmost limit.

Be sure that the entrances to the hives are kept open. The bees want good, fresh air to breathe.

Pollen is always stored in or near the brood nest, and here is the place where the bees will cluster.

Queen cells should never be retained in any colony except one that is in a natural, healthy condition.

If any of the colonies are short of stores, give them candy. It can be laid on top of the frames above the cluster.—St. Louis Republic.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having residences in the city must clear the sidewalks in front of their residences of snow and ice within 18 hours of the time of snow fall or ice formation. Neglect to comply with this order will make any offender subject to the law's penalty. By order of COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

A Good Deal Better for a Good Deal Less

is what you may expect in buying

TRAVELING BAGS, DRESS SUIT CASES, MUSIC ROLLS, BELTS, ETC.

At my new factory, 131 State St. Retail trade solicited.

F. J. Barber.
MANUFACTURER.

Take Adams Car.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY. Klondike Gold Fields
Yukon
New England to Pacific Coast
WITHOUT CHANGE. Circulars of test information, 197 Washington St., Boston.

FELS' NAPHTHA SOAP

Takes the sting out of wash day. No boiling clothes nor hard rubbing. Use lukewarm water. Try it.

Do not forget we sell Pratt's Astral Oil. Also, remember our prices are low for first quality, and a large assortment to select from.

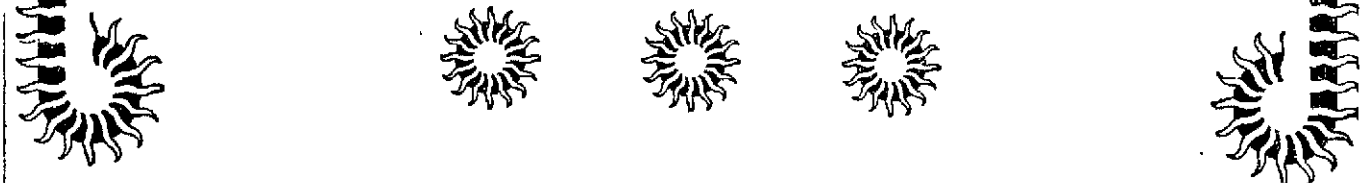
NO STAMPS; everything as represented.

H. A. SHERMAN & CO.,
101 Main Street.

If

Is often a very troublesome word, and quite apt to be so in Real Estate transactions; yet in many instances it is disposed of to the satisfaction of all concerned. The first step is to tell your "ifs" to

Alford
Do you want to buy?
Do you want to sell?
Do you want to borrow?



A double tenement house in the fifth ward. Large lot, \$3200.
A new 10 room house, 8 minutes from postoffice, well built, in good repair, modern improvements, Simmons boiler. Will sell for \$4,000.
A neat little cottage of six rooms, in good location, \$2,400.
Another 10 per cent. investment in choice tenement property. Worth looking into.
A large double house, with vacant lot adjoining. Will be sold separately or together. Bargain.
A large double tenement house in good condition, 5 minutes' walk from Main street, \$6,000.
A seven-room house with large lot. Cheap at \$2,750.
Three-tenement house in good neighborhood, large lot, \$3,500.
A fine building lot, 66 ft front by 150 ft deep.
A double tenement house that rents for \$19.00 per month that can be bought for \$2,500.
A nine room house on the line of the electric railway, west, small barn, one acre of land \$3000.
A choice piece of residence property in the fifth ward, large house, pleasant surroundings. Not many of this kind for sale, \$9000.
\$5000. for a modern 8 room house in the Normal School district, hot air, Lot 66 x 132.
Another one that I can sell for \$4700, has 8 rooms and bath, heated by hot air. Lot 57 x 186.
A small house on the line of the electric road, South, about one-half acre of land, \$1500.
A farm of about 100 acres on the "Notch Road," one-half timber, balance meadow and pasture. No house, one barn, \$1800.

Anything you wish to know about....
West End Park?
Information Bureau,
90 Main Street.

Farm of fifty acres, about two and one-half miles from North Adams, house 12 rooms, \$3000.
I have one nice near-by lot that somebody will be sure to want this spring, but it will be a great deal safer to buy it now if you are looking for that sort of a purchase. It is 65 feet front by 140 feet deep, and can be bought for \$2500.
There are still remaining on Richmond Hill, some very desirable lots which will be sold as heretofore at low prices and on easy terms. For nearby lots these are cheaper than anything in the city, and will prove a good investment for the modest home-builder, \$300, 400 and 500.
The lots on the Sherman property, on the line of the electric road, west, are for many reasons considered very choice. They are on high ground, facing south, affording one of the finest views in this valley, and are large, being 75x200. There are five lots remaining on the north side of the street, five having already been sold.
There are twenty lots on what is known as the Harlow Green property on West Main street, opposite the Fair Grounds. \$350 buys a good one.
On the new State Road, opposite the Brayton school, there are some very desirable low price lots, as well as on West Main street, adjoining Brown & O'Connor's store. Plans and prices on application.
A new 2-tenement house, rents for \$16.50 per month and the price is \$1900. This property can be bought on easy terms if desired.
A double tenement house in good location easily worth \$3500 and I will sell it at that figure.
A new six-tenement house, fully occupied and renting for \$648 per annum and can be bought for \$5000 is a good investment.
I represent the American Fire Insurance company of Boston, one of the oldest and best of Massachusetts companies. Prompt adjustment of losses guaranteed.

ALFORD,
Real Estate and Insurance.
90 Main Street.

You will
Fall in Love
With it. Thousands
have, and use it daily for
Laundry, Bath and Toilet.
It has no equal.
Insist on having
Welcome Soap.
If you are *plucky*
You can get it
Even though
"Other brands pay
Larger profits."

**WONDER
FLOUR**

**THE GREAT BREAD
PRODUCER**

Every Package Guaranteed as Rep-
resented or money refunded.
Can you ask more?
The following first-class Gro-
cers Sell it:-

- NORTH ADAMS**
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| W. H. Braman | Sherman & Plumbo |
| J. Fisher & Co. | Chas. Preve |
| S. J. & W. G. Ellis | G. J. Boland |
| G. E. Foster | E. F. Burdick |
| F. J. Harrington | N. E. Belanger |
| W. H. Reynolds | W. H. & A. R. Smith |
| F. Kestle | W. T. Clark |
| L. D. Thayer | N. Gavanagh |
| R. P. Ryan | R. Darrow |
| N. I. Gleason | H. Woodward |
| John Sullivan | |
- ADAMS** **WILLIAMSTOWN**
- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| M. B. Foster | L. E. Noyes, P. D. Noel |
| G. W. Haff | T. J. Fowler |
- BLACKINTON**
E. Davies

PRIGENO MORE THAN "JUST AS GO OD

**The Adams
National Bank**
of NORTH ADAMS, MASS.
Incorporated 1832. Reorganized 1865.

Capital \$500,000
Surplus, Undivided Profits 150,000

W. W. BRAYTON, President.
A. C. HOUGHTON, Vice-President.
S. S. WILKINSON, Cashier.

Directors: S. W. Houghton, A. C. Houghton,
S. S. Wilkinson, V. A. Whitaker, Hon. George
P. Lawrence, W. A. Gallup, W. C. Cady, G. W.
Chase, H. W. Clark.

**Accounts and collections
solicited.**

W. H. GAYLORD.

Great Mark-Down Sale of

**Cloaks and
Capes.**

Cloaks marked down to
one-half the usual price to
clear them quickly and surely.

Handkerchiefs!

Handkerchiefs!

A large special stock of
Handkerchiefs is here to
choose from. More styles
than you can imagine, all at
little enough prices.

W. H. GAYLORD.

**Wm. H. Bennett,
Fire Insurance
Agency...**

2 Adams Nat Bank Bldg
North Adams, Mass.
AGENT FOR

Green Ins Co of America,
Connecticut Fire Ins Co,
Manchester Fire Insurance Co,
Northwestern Nat Ins Co,
Prussian National Ins Co.

New York,
Hartford, Ct,
England,
Milwaukee, Wis,
Germany.

**Copley Square
Hotel**

Huntington Ave., Cor. Exeter St., Boston

A new and elegantly appointed fireproof
hotel. Menus and conveniently located.
One minute from Huntington Ave. Station.
B. & A. R. R. Five to fifteen minutes to shop-
ping centers and places of amusement.
Electric cars to all points pass the door.

ROOMS SINGLY OR EN SUITE WITH
PRIVATE BATHS.

American plan, \$3.50 per day and up.
European, rooms \$1.00 per day and up

F. S. Risteen & Co.

William's Kidney Pills
Has no equal in diseases of the
Kidneys and Urinary Organs. Have
you neglected your Kidneys? Have
you overworked your nervous sys-
tem and caused trouble with your
Kidneys and Bladder? Have you
pains in the loins, side, back, groins
and bladder? Have you a flabby ap-
pearance of the face, especially
under the eyes? Too frequent de-
sire pass urine? William's Kidney
Pills will impart new life to the dis-
eased organs, tone up the system
and make a new man of you. By
mail 50 cents per box.
WILLIAMS' MED. CO., PROP., CLEVELAND, O.

For sale at Pratt's Drug Store.

Local News!

NEWSTATE.

There have been four mornings when
the thermometer has registered below
zero. Last Monday morning it was 1
below.

W. O. Ford is rushing business. He had
three men driving teams drawing logs to
his mill and wood to Adams.

There was a dance at Charles Kemp's
last Saturday evening. A. J. McCollock
furnished music. All report a pleasant
time.

Dennis Haskins and wife called on Mr.
and Mrs. A. E. Bliss last Sunday morning
while on their way to visit their father
and mother, W. W. Burnett and wife.

Mrs. Philo Simonds of Easthampton is
stopping with her sister, Mrs. M. A. Bliss
for a few weeks.

POWNA.

The one item of interest to the ex-
clusion of all others here was the funeral of
Hon. William B. Arnold on Monday. It
was attended by Mr. Anthony and the
local lodge F. and A. M. and a large
crowd of people from this and adjoining
towns. Deceased was 70 years of age and
has been a member of both legislative
branches, the house in '66, and the senate
in '78. He was also a prominent con-
gressman. His services were often de-
manded by court as committee or referee,
especially on roads in which he was a
very capable man. For years he was
town agent and held other offices. Dur-
ing the civil war he part played by Mr.
Arnold in keeping up the quota of the
town and its credit was magnificent. The
funeral was held at the Baptist church,
Monday, Rev. B. F. Kellogg officiating.
The bearers were Amasa Thompson, A-
bram Morgan, Charles H. Barber, S. L.
Smith, S. J. Gardner and W. E. Niles.
The choir rendered "Lead Kindly Light,"
"The Golden Gate" and "Thy Will Be
Done." The text was, "What is Man,"
and at the close the Fraternity carried
the remains in due form to Oak Hill
cemetery.

Many People Cannot Drink
Coffee at night. It spoils their sleep. You
can drink Grain-O when you please and
sleep like a top. For Grain-O does not
stimulate; it nourishes, cheers and feeds.
Fet it looks and tastes like the best coffee.
For nervous persons, young people and
children Grain-O is the perfect drink.
Made from pure grains. Get a package
from your grocer today. Try it in place
of coffee. 15 and 25c.

HALIFAX.

P. E. Crozier is getting out peg wood.
Lucius Omsby and Will Wilbur have
been thrashing for Rufus Crozier.

Mrs. Chamberlain is seriously ill. Miss
Flora Cox and Mrs. John Lee are also on
the sick list.

The Helping Hand Torch will be read
next Friday evening by the editors, Jame
Lee and Mary Goodell.

Joseph Wellspeak has secured employ-
ment in the Boston Finishing works.

The officers elected by the Helping
Hand Temperance society for the next
six months are as follows: President
James F. Lee; vice-president, Mrs. G. V.
Stryker; secretary, Josie Montgomery;
treasurer, Simeon Canedy; conductor,
William Haley.

Mrs. Arthur Moody is visiting friends
in Troy, N. Y.

Ernest Hill, at Will Goodell's, is dan-
gerously sick with appendicitis. The
doctor gives little hope for his recovery.

The sleighing still continues fine and
the wood teams continue their work.
There will be a cottage prayer meeting
Saturday evening at the home of George
Wright.

Exhor Marcle and wife have visited in
Bennington for several days.

Pyococina.

An absolute cure for piles. A home
remedy, endorsed by home people. North
Adams druggists sell it.

GROVE

Mrs. Elliot Green, who has been ill for
several weeks, is able to sit up some.

Frank Stetson has gone to Cohoes, N.
Y., for a visit.

Ed. Boyden is working for D. S. Wor-
den.

Joe Herzog, who has worked for a long
time for Frank Brigham, has returned
ome.



Often has he been ad-
monished to bring only
Chase & Sanborn's Seal
Brand, he now realizes
that it stands in a class by
itself.

The best people to
whose houses he is sent
demand this brand.

No matter what he may
forget, no matter what he
may bring wrong, he
never makes a mistake
in bringing another kind
of coffee when Seal Brand
is ordered.

All grocers sell it, in
pound and two-pound tin
cans.

OLD AGE.

It may be, when this city of the nine gates
Is broken down by ruinous old age,
And no one upon any pilgrimage
Hastily upon the city broods
It may be, then, that those remembering
And sleepless watchers on the crumbling
towers
Shall lose the count of the disastrous hours
Which God may lay the grown tired of reckoning.
—Arthur Symonds in Athenaeum.

THE POSTAL THIEF.

BY CHARLES B. LEWIS.

As a postoffice inspector I did not hear
of the doings at Shelby until two or
three of my fellow inspectors had tried
their hands and made a failure of it.
Then I took the case and failed most ig-
nominiously of all because I added blun-
der to failure.

The postmaster was an old man named
Harper, and for assistants he had his
two daughters, one being 19 and the
other 15 years of age. Mr. Harper had
held the office for 12 years when the
complaints came in. The postoffice was
an L of his residence, with a front ad-
ded. The inspectors who preceded me
had looked the ground over and left the
case a mystery. Everybody said that
Harper was honest itself, and the idea
that the girls would tamper with the
mails was not to be entertained.

The mail carrier was the first man to
see to. I arrived on the ground without
my identity being revealed and watched
him for two weeks. There was oppor-
tunity during his eight mile drive to
open the bags with a duplicate key, but
I watched without result, except to be
satisfied of his honesty. Then I made
myself known to the postmaster and re-
ceived a warm welcome. He was very
much distressed about the thefts, and to
the best of his knowledge and belief all
had taken place in his office. There
were only about 20 persons who rented
boxes, and all other mail was put into
the general delivery. As the father and
his two daughters were the only ones
handling the mail or having access to
the interior of the office it seemed that
one of the three must be the thief, and
yet I could not bring myself to believe
that I was given the fullest opportu-
nity to investigate, and I also did some
work outside unbeknown to the post-
master.

I caused to be mailed to the patent
medicine people a large number of let-
ters, with a private number on each en-
velope. The first batch of ten came
through all right, but out of the second
two were missing. The whole ten had
left Denton in the mail bag, as I well
knew, and the two had either been tak-
en en route by the carrier or by some
one after their arrival at Shelby. As
the carrier had brought over two pas-
sengers in his cart that trip he might be
considered out of it. The mail had ar-
rived at Shelby at 8 o'clock and been
called for an hour later. Next day a
batch of six letters came through all
right, and so on the next, and on the
third ten were received. I helped to dis-
tribute the mail and counted three let-
ters and recorded the number. Father
and daughter all knew this, and yet at
5 o'clock three of these letters, together
with two for a certain merchant, which
I had particularly noticed, were missing
and could not be found.

That evening, after the office closed,
we turned it upside down, as it were,
but nothing came of it. The old post-
master was in the deepest despair,
while his two daughters wept and sob-
bed over what they believed would be
the ruin of all. As an inspector, and
with such evidence before my eyes, it
was my business to believe one of the
three guilty, and yet I had to reason
that they wouldn't be idiotic enough
to purloin letters under my very nose. I
simply didn't know what to think, and
next morning was knocked off my feet
to receive a complaint from Washing-
ton that three important letters posted
at Shelby ten days before for a city only
100 miles away had been lost en route.

I telegraphed for enlarged instructions,
and upon receiving them I told Mr.
Harper I must let go of the case tempo-
rarily for another. I shifted my quar-
ters over to Denton, through which all
mail to and from Shelby must pass, and
made such arrangements with the post-
master that every letter was counted
and its address taken. I mailed about 30
decoy letters in this time, and at the
end of 14 days had the satisfaction of
knowing that 11 different letters had
somewhere or other been made away with
at Shelby. This was adding evidence to
evidence, but I did not return to Shelby
to lay the matter before the old post-
master.

I went back there in the disguise of a
farmer's hired man looking for work,
and luckily for me no farmer wanted a
man. I therefore loafed about the vil-
lage and was in and out of the postoffice
half a dozen times per day—always
there when the mail departed or came
in. By looking through the glass door
of one of the boxes I could see the gen-
eral delivery box, mail tables, etc., and
carefully scrutinized the conduct of the
three as they did their work. I kept up
this espionage for a week before any-
thing happened. Then the mail came in
one afternoon while the father was tem-
porarily absent, and the girls opened the
bag and assorted it. As they picked up
the letters each pocketed one with a sly
look, and you may believe me when I
tell you I turned away with a heavy
heart. Instead of one thief there were
two, and those the handsomest and win-
somest daughters of an honest and upright
old man. It would break his heart when
he learned the truth, but I must tell him,
and those girls must be punished.

I went to the hotel, threw off my dis-
guise and then returned to the postoffice.
I somehow felt that the girls ought to
look guilty, but they did not. They
gave me a cordial greeting, hoped I had
come back to stay until the mystery was
thoroughly sifted, and no persons could
have borne themselves more innocently.

That night after the office was closed to
the public I asked the father to my room
and then went over the case with him.
There could be no manner of doubt that
a score or more of letters had been pur-
loined from his office. There were three
of them who had access to the mails,
and one of the three must have some
guilty knowledge of those letters. By
no possibility could an outsider reach
them. With tears streaming down his
furrowed cheeks he acknowledged that
my assertions and declarations were
correct, but who was the thief? Did I
suspect him? Could I suspect either of

his daughters? Then I broke it to him
as gently as I could—told him what I
had seen in the afternoon and what was
a fact.

For some time he argued that I must
be mistaken, but finally told me to go
ahead and do my duty and never mind
his feelings. He had been father and
mother to those girls for years, and no
word or act of theirs had ever before
caused him a moment's uneasiness. If
they had taken two letters, they had
taken all the others, and he asked me
to go to the house and confront them
and extort a confession. Hard hearted
as I thought myself, I hadn't the nerve
to do that, but put it off till morning.
He gave me his promise to say nothing
overnight, and I was at the house soon
after breakfast. I sat down with the
girls and went over the case, as I had
with him, hoping to break them down,
but they had only anxiety on their faces
as they listened. Then I boldly stated
what I had seen on the previous day,
and the shot told. Both blushed and
stammered and began weeping, and I
took it as a confession and told the fa-
ther so. He couldn't speak to them for
his emotion, and when I told him they
must consider themselves under arrest
and a search made of their rooms he
simply bowed his head in acquiescence.

I wanted to keep the girls below while
I searched their room, and unfortun-
ately for me I called in the village const-
table to sit with them. He had to be told
more or less of the case, and as soon as
he was at liberty he went out to spread
the news. In an hour it was known all
over town that the two girls had been
caught robbing the postoffice, and some
of the excited people even went so far
as to say that the father had probably
winked at it.

My search revealed two letters from
two different men in New York. They
had been directed under other names,
but the two girls had opened them.
They had stolen these letters and forgot
to destroy them. I went out and made
inquiries, and then I discovered what a
blunderer I was. Both girls were carry-
ing on a clandestine correspondence, us-
ing fictitious names, and these were the
letters I had seen them pocket. When I
asked them to confirm this theory they
did so, but it was evident that in their
eyes clandestine letter writing was about
as bad a crime as robbing the mails.

The news had gone forth that they had
been detected in purloining letters, and
how could I combat it? I spent the next
two days in trying to explain matters
to the public, but found not one man or
woman who would believe me. Post-
office inspectors didn't bring charges
and retract them, they reasoned, and a
strong petition was drawn up and sent
to Washington asking that the culprit be
duly punished. Letters were also
written stating that I must have been
bribed to act as I did and declaring that
I was not a proper man for the service.

You may well reason that I was sum-
moned to report in Washington without
delay and that my reception there was
anything but flattering to me. I had
lost my official head before saying 20
words, and that didn't count. If I
got a grain of comfort out of the situa-
tion, it was when I heard that several
more complaints about lost letters at
Shelby had just come in that day.

I left Washington with no particular
aim, but on reaching Denton I made up
my mind to go over to Shelby and have
one more look around. I went back in
my old role as hired man and entered
that postoffice about half an hour after
the mail had been distributed. Looking
through the glass door of a box, I saw
one of the girls sewing and the other
reading. Behind them was an open back
window, and within three feet of this
window was the general delivery box.
In front of the window and only two
feet away was the table on which the
mail packages were done up, and a score
of letters were lying there to be wrap-
ped. I had just made out these things
when a good sized bird, black in color,
alighted on the window sill, hopped
along to the delivery box and picked off
the top letter and darted away. In 15
seconds the bird was back, and in the
course of ten minutes I watched her
take away five letters. That bird was a
magpie and the real thief, but I had
ruined the reputation of a family before
solving the mystery. I at once made
myself known to the father, and we vis-
ited the back yard to search for the let-
ters. There in an old dog kennel which
had been tenanted for years we found
them—every single one which had been
missed. The magpie belonged to a
neighbor, and singularly enough she had
never been caught at the trick. As it
was summer the back window was open
all day, and there were times when only
one person would be waiting on the
public. With the usual cunning of her
species the bird watched her chance,
taking letters from both the table and
the general delivery box, and a dozen
other inspectors might have been put
on the case without solving the mystery. I
had that satisfaction, though I was not
reinstated, and I also take great pleas-
ure in saying that after while the peo-
ple of Shelby came to believe the Har-
pers entirely innocent and made ample
amends for what had been said and
done.

Not Up to Date.

"What is little Dick bellowing
about?"

"Well, his grandpa gave him a gin-
gerbread horse, and he is mad because
it isn't a gingerbread wheel."—Detroit
Free Press.

Books and Their Uses.

"What a beautiful library you have!"
exclaimed the visitor. "You can never
be lonely with so many beautiful and
expensive books about you."

"Oh," replied Mrs. Cumrox con-
fidently, "you don't see all that we
have!"

"Yes. We have any number of books
with paper backs that we read."—
Washington Star.

MUTTS
(Trade Mark Registered.)
**Cough
Syrup**
Regular Size, 25c.
Three times the quantity, 50c.
Read our Money Back Guarantee on
each package before purchasing.
Raymond Medicine Co.,
Newmarket, N. H.

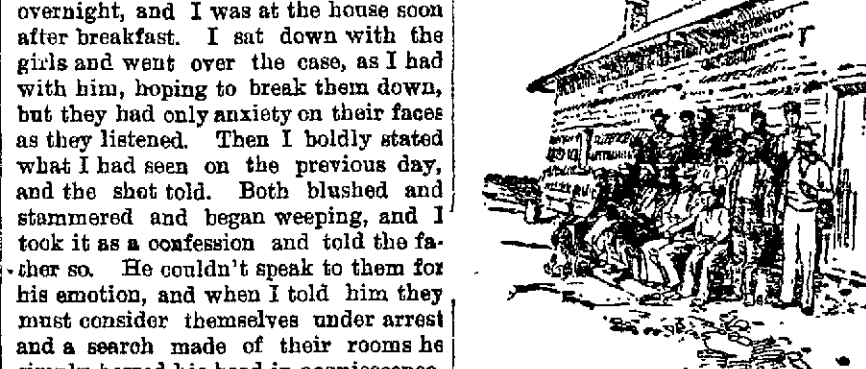
COOK'S INLET RICHES

**GOLD DISCOVERIES SAID TO RIVAL
THE KLONDIKE.**

Marvels of the Extreme Northwestern Part
of Our Continent—Its Coal Beds, Soil,
Climate, Fish and Game—A New El Dor-
ado For the Argonaut.

(Special Correspondence.)

SEATTLE, Jan. 19.—The intense ex-
citement into which the "sacred hunger
for gold," as the Latin poet calls it,
has flamed with the wonderful discov-
eries in the Klondike country has turned



A MINING CAMP.

the eyes of the world to the extreme
northwestern part of our continent.
That hyperborean region, wrapped for
a large part of the year in snow and ice,
is today what California and Australia
were in the not distant past. So the ar-
gonauts are swarming thither, defying
the rigors of nature, the difficulties of
getting there and the more serious dif-
ficulties of living there, once the pick
and shovel are in hand.

It is an old story now, the wonders of
the Klondike goldfields, the rich finds
of the precious metal and the dramatic
tales of suffering under the arctic pall
of a long and dreadful winter. Indeed
this personal element of human priv-
ation transforming the scramble for
wealth into a tragedy is largely re-
sponsible for the intense interest of the
world. It is the sympathy with suffer-
ing which the exploitation of the news-
paper writer finds so available, as well
as veracious accounts of glittering mil-
lions unearthed. This is the advantage,
strange to say, which the inhospitable
waste of British America have over the
Alaskan goldfields in fascinating the
public attention. There is not much ro-
mance in gold getting where it is pur-
sued under conditions of comparative
ease.

All the recent accounts of auriferous
development in our so called arctic
province, in great measure indeed a
misnomer, point to a future rivalry
which will make pale the golden glitter
gilding the other side of the line. The
immense mineral resources of Alaska
have been recognized in theory for many
years, but it is only recently that they
have been made tangible facts. I have
been deeply interested in accounts
brought back to us by travelers and ex-
plorers touching specially that immense
region which depends on Cook's Inlet as
its source of supplies and its ocean port.
To avoid diffuseness, I have not put the
information given in the form of an
interview, but have collated and con-
densed the facts.

Cook's Inlet, about 700 miles west
from Sitka, the Alaskan capital, is
about 160 miles long and from 75 to 25
miles in width, presenting on one side
mountainous and rugged bluffs and on
the other the plateaus and parklike ter-
races of the Kenai peninsula. One of
the indentations of the month of the
inlet, where the town of Homer has
been located within the last two years,
is the finest natural harbor on the coast.
Far up the inlet the tidal base (for there
is a rise of nearly 80 feet) presents dif-
ficulties to navigation, though not in-
superable. But nothing could be safer
or more convenient than the depth of
water which in the harbor floats big
steamships at the very edge of the land
at all times of tide. The region about
Cook's Inlet, famous since its discovery
by the eminent English navigator as the
paradise of Alaska, presents aspects of
the most fascinating interest. The on-
slaughts are here still active, even if
they be but the expiring throes of
monstrous activities. The traveler sail-
ing into Cook's Inlet sees three volcanoes
still fiercely spouting at times, with
eternal pillars of smoke by day and of
fire by night. Glaciers pour themselves
into the sea, and not far in the interior
may be seen hot springs and geysers al-
most as wonderful as those of Yellow-
stone park or of Iceland.

But the awakened interest in this re-
gion does not arise from its wealth in
the beauty and marvelousness of nature
so much as in its wealth of mineral de-
posits. That Alaska as a whole is one

of the great gold bearing sections of
North America is indubitable. That the
Cook's Inlet country is one of sur-
passing richness in the yellow metal is
becoming every month more certain,
though the rush to this region has as
yet scarcely begun. Sagacious men,
however, have made large investments
and taken up extensive properties along
both sides of the inlet and back from
tide water on the small streams which
rush down through the mountain passes,
fed by eternal glaciers.

These mines are mostly of the placer

character, though magnificent quartz
properties have also been located for
future work. All the placer diggings
are extraordinarily rich in color and
average from \$1 to \$20 in yield per
achio yard of gravel. The richness of
the placers increases with the depth,
which in any cases is estimated to be 64
feet down to bedrock. Most of the gold
so far taken out seems to have been
from the surface strata. In the few
cases where bedrock has been reached
the yield has been fabulously rich. An
exhibit of such a yield was shown the
writer, consisting of nuggets and coarse
gold, and its contents ranged from the
size of a baby's fist down to that of
backshot. This product came from the
near vicinity of the town site of Homer.

On the west side of the mouth of Cook's
Inlet is found a mineralogical phenom-
enon so remarkable as to call for the
most curious interest. Gold generally
runs through quartz in veins. But here
is a mass of mineralized rock, 20 miles
long and 1,000 feet in height, where
the gold appears to be diffused through
all parts of the material. Assays taken
at random have shown a yield ranging
from \$1 to \$150 per ton, and the quan-
tity of gold ore is literally inexhaust-
ible if the facts alleged by the mining
experts are true. Of course quartz min-
ing in this region at present gives place
to the placer workings, as the latter can
be conducted with success on a far less
costly scale. The placer ground now
open extends for a radius of 50 miles
from the upper end of Cook's Inlet, and
there is every reason to believe that it
will be greatly extended with the rapid
influx of adventurers. But with all the
increasing amount of operations the new
town of Homer, located on a long sand
spit which shoots out between Kachek-
mak and Unghashik bays at the mouth
of Cook's Inlet and blessed with a per-
fect harbor, must be the metropolis of
the region. Indeed it seems likely to be
the natural center of distribution and
port of outlet for the whole locality.

This good fortune appears to be spe-
cially insured by the immense coal
measures, which lie at tide water adja-
cent the town in great clifflike hills.
This is the only coal deposit known on
the Pacific coast north of Vancouver,
and, according to the United States
government report, the coal is of a su-
perior quality of its kind, which is
brown lignite of a semibituminous
quality. The facilities of mining and
shipment make it a probable rival, even
for the San Francisco and Hawaiian
markets, of coal mines much farther
south, besides rendering it an inval-
uable factor in the prosperity of Alaska
in general and more specifically of the
adjacent region. The presence of petro-
leum oil in the vicinity has also been
satisfactorily tested and promises a val-
uable industry in the early future.

Aside from the richness of the gold
deposits, the conditions under which

gold can be obtained constitute a most
important feature of the mining prob-
lem. In the Cook's Inlet country men
can work for seven months of the year
instead of three, as in the Klondike, for
the climate is the most favorable known
in subarctic latitudes, and the question
of supplies is readily solved. Sojourners
can go and come with ease any month
of the year. Last year there was a
monthly visit of a steamer, and next
year, it is expected, this will become
weekly. The Japan current, sweeping
near by, gives a great blandness to the
climate, which is yet free from the
extraordinary dampness of the Sitka
summer. There is a lush growth of grass
on the Kenai peninsula, where garden
vegetables and small fruits also flourish
in their season.

The bays swarm with excellent food
fish, notably the finest salmon on the
Pacific coast, a fact which has develop-
ed a large and growing canning indus-
try. Splendid big game shooting—bear
of several varieties, including the
grizzly; moose, deer and the bighorn—
invites the sportsman, as do also in-
numerable flocks of geese, ducks, brants
and swans. It is a saying in the region
that no one need go hungry at any sea-
son who can pull a trigger, be he ever
so poor a shot. On the whole, it appears
to be quite sure that the mining adven-
ture can prosecute his toils here not only
without the terrible hardships which
attach to life in the Klondike country,
but with no greater difficulties to meet
than are inseparable from such enter-
prises in any part of the world. Next
year there is a prospect, too, that a
company which has extensive interests
in this region, and after whose ruling
spirit the town of Homer has been
christened, will arrange for numerous
and conveniently situated storehouses of
supplies, which will enable the Cook's
Inlet miner to satisfy his needs with the
least possible friction. It is believed
that not less than 1,000 men will seek
their fortunes in this direction in the
spring. This should be the beginning of
a movement of great significance in the
development of a magnificent mining
field.

Pink and Yeller.

Ellen—By the way, your wife has dis-
continued her pink teas.

Follen—Well, yes. We've got a little
pink tense at the house now that is occupy-
ing all her time.—Indianapolis Journal.

Knew Her Bank Account.

"Love will not pay your household bills!"
Sneered the man with the massive head.
The fiance smiled at the three terrible ills.
"Ah, but my love will!"—Brooklyn Life.

A Domestic Convenience.

"Say, that luminous pipe is grand."
"What do you use it for?"
"We paint the baby so we can give him
a drink in the night without lighting the
gas."—Chicago Record.

Discovered After Marriage.

He used to call his girl his "dame,"
And, though he knew it not,
It was a very proper name.
Her temper is red-hot.—Up to Date.

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to the placer workings, as the latter can
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costly scale. The placer ground now
open extends for

PARIS FASHIONS.

pattern in black which enriches the color or effect amazingly.

So much space has been taken up in speaking of materials—of which the half has not been told—that not much remains for the discussion of styles this week. Fashion goes from one extreme to the other in the matter of bodices, which are either very loose, giving the blouse effect, or very tight. They may be lavishly decorated or almost entirely untrimmings, according to taste, and are equally fashionable in both cases. They are most frequently cut away over a guimpe of different material, large or small, as may be preferred. Persons who are a great deal of trimming need be embarrassed only by the wide range of choice offered them, applications, embroidery, fur, lace, buttons, ribbons, ruffles, puffs, guipure and passementerie all being admissible and all being shown in a great variety of style and colors.

Just a word about wraps. The blouse form will predominate until spring, and thin summer jackets will also be made in that style. It is too early to give examples of what is intended for warm weather wear. A model more appropriate to the present time has a body and basque of chinchilla fur, the sleeves being of gray velvet, with the fur and embroidered with cords in two different shades of gray. Around the waist a green belt of gold and turquoise. The toque accompanying this blouse is of mandarin velvet.

Capes are still worn and are still fashionable, especially in far more elegant costumes, but are no longer universal. The long redingote is well represented and is worn sometimes made entirely of mink, otter or astrakhan, fitted closely to the figure. A high, flaring collar surrounds the neck, but the garment, when all of fur, is necessarily plain.

This is the season of fancy balls in Paris, when ingenuity would seem to be exhausted in devising for each person a costume different from that of anybody else. National costumes are of course always pleasing, although not unusual. One of the prettiest is that of the Breton peasant, worn by the larger figure in the picture. The plun colored skirt is gathered at the waist and trimmed around the front with black velvet bands. The close, black velvet bodice has a vest of red cloth embroidered with silver. The low cut chemise and collar are of white batiste, the half length sleeves of ecru linen. The characteristic cap is also of white batiste. Red stockings and black velvet slippers with silver buckles complete the costume. The little girl wears a costume representing a chicken. The red skirt is of accordion plaited liberty satin. The little bodice is covered with white feathers and has short sleeves and a basque of feathers representing wings. The slippers, stockings and gloves are red, and a cap representing a white chicken's head with a red comb gives character to the gown. A necklace of eggs and a basket of them are the accessories.

The round hat illustrated is a sailor shape of beige felt. Around the crown is a soft drapery of cherry velvet in two shades, the darker shade being outside. The lighter velvet forms two erect coques at the left side, with which are mingled three brown owl quills. At the base are three roses of beige and Beaver silk.

New Things in Hats.

Chenille capes and capotes promise to be favorites. Some of the new shapes have a bow set under the crown, which gives a resemblance to the college mortarboards. Rembrandts are also popular; some of them show wonderful crowns of cornflower blue.

Paris, Jan. 28.—No more crinoline and haircloth, if you please—no stiffening at all in sleeves or skirt—but simply a soft, thick lining to give the goods substance. The day of rigid folds and of gowns as immovable and unyielding as if they were made out of sheet tin has happily passed at last, and now a supple, flowing effect is the desideratum. Heavy silk is employed for lining skirts, usually without an interlining, but if the latter is desired it consists of thin flannel. Sometimes the skirt of the lining gown is made separate from the lining, the latter forming a lower skirt, connected with the outer one merely at the waistband in the old style. In that case the lining skirt is finished with a ruffle or plaiting around the front, the foot of the outer skirt being hemmed and a heavy silk cord being sewed on the extreme edge to protect it and give it body.

The introduction of ruffles and flounces some time ago was indicative of the approaching change to soft, flowing folds—that change which has now come to pass, most happily—and ruffles and flounces still characterize fashionable tendencies and will prevail through spring and summer also. The new fabrics are calculated with an eye to this and are soft and adaptable to the last degree. The organdies, nainsooks and lawns prepared for warm weather gowns are of the most charming description—as transparent as mist and of the most varied and delicate colorings. The floral designs, which are many, are artistic in the extreme, consisting of loose trails and clusters of flowers and leaves semidetached, but not spotty in effect. These are often intermingled with wide or narrow stripes, indistinct clouds of color, ribbon bows in the Louis Quinze style, satin finished lines and even plaids. There are also plain plaids in sheer nainsook, plain stripes and two colored patterns. For the plaid and striped goods there are plaid and striped ribbons to match, although it is doubtful if these are really as effective for trimming as ribbons of plain color, which afford more accent. A plaid nainsook in pink, white and green over a pink silk slip, with plain ribbons of pink and green intermingled, composes a charming model, the trimming consisting of narrow bias ruffles of the plaid nainsook.

Foulard and india silks, especially the former, bid fair to rival taffeta for summer wear. Taffeta has been the silk par excellence for several seasons past, but it is of a stiff, papery nature, and with the incoming of flexible styles it naturally tends to fall back toward the rear and yield place to more amenable weaves. White designs, covering a dark ground of blue, red, green, brown or black, but especially blue or black, are the favorites for general wear. There are several shades of blue backgrounds, ranging from bluet to navy blue, the white design being partly or not wholly conventional and yet rather free in character and not at all of a set effect.

In lawns of plain color or polka dotted some very pretty samples are shown in which stripes of narrow valenciennes insertion, white, yellow or black, are interwoven with the fabric. These are accompanied by bands edged

with narrow valenciennes lace, which are to be utilized as ruffles and flounces. Very fine velvet ribbon is utilized to an immense extent and has been reproduced in the old fashioned fancy weaves, striped, dotted and figured. It borders ruffles, forms clusters of bands and is arranged in various dainty designs. Perhaps one of the newest ideas in which it figures is the decorating of a blue silk petticoat trimmed with insertion and edging of cream valenciennes. The petticoat is made with a deep flounce, which is cut into diamonds by a lattice-work of narrow insertion, and each diamond has upon it a bow of narrow velvet ribbon of intermingled stripes of blue and black. The bow is sewed down all around, on application, except the ends, which are allowed to hang free.

Speaking of silk petticoats, plaid silks compose some extremely pretty ones. Many women have an objection to plaids, especially to bright ones, but a



certain petticoat of taffeta, having a scarlet ground with lines of black, blue, green and yellow, could hardly find any woman who would disapprove of it. It is trimmed with itself alone, no lace, ribbon or embroidery entering into its composition, but it is a mass of accordion plaited ruffles and flounces of different widths, pinked and cut in deep points, and the effect is most attractive. Then there are petticoats of pale plaids in general tones of blue, pink, yellow, green or lavender. The trimming of

scribe even a few of the more attractive examples of the silk weaver's and dyer's art. Generally speaking, there is a tendency to introduce lines, figures and other touches of black into richly colored brooches, damasks and similar silks, and the effect is most satisfactory, the black giving value to the colors among which it appears. For example, a broche satin in clear, deep tones of green and blue, which in their intermingling rival the changing hue of a peacock's plumage, has an all over serpentine

SASHES.

A sharp eye is necessary to follow the countless manifestations of the popular sash in making, for a sash seems almost an inevitable part of every gown at present. First we have the sash that goes with the braided, formal tailor suit. A tailor's sash is usually two long wedge shaped pieces of cloth, faced with silk, stiffened with an interlining and decorated with braid. Such sashes have swallowtail or arrowhead ends and fall

EMBROIDERY IN FAVOR.

loosely about the throat or with house shirt waists of flannel or silk are very much used in place of belts. A roman scarf is soft, flows into pretty, close folds when wrapped tight at the waist line, and at one side two loops and fringed ends make a neat finish.



primly to the hem over the back fullness of the skirt, or, beginning in two narrow bretelles from the shoulders, pass over the bust and hang out upon the skirt just inside the line of the hips. Floral tulle, lace, ribbon and chiffon sashes for evening gowns have been mentioned, but two novelties have just been put forth. One is the sash of three or two mismatched streamers and of any goods you please. The three streamer sash is really one long loop and two ends of pink, white and blue ribbon, or whatever three colors harmonize with the gown on which it is worn, or of crepe de chine. On a white dancing or dinner dress it is appropriate to wear two sash streamers and in their ends knot clusters of artificial flowers.

Last, but not of least importance, is the pretty chiffon or ribbon sash in roman stripes that is worn like a Scotchman's plaid or foreign nobleman's ribbon of a grand order, that is attached on the right shoulder and drawn across the breast to the left hip. There; knotted and allowed to fall—where the sash crosses the breast—it is fastened to the bodice by pretty pins or is caught on the shoulder by some old cameo miniature brooch.

If the roman sash is worn, deeply fringed ends are adopted, and gay girls who skate this season wear as mufflers wide soft silk neckscarfs, bright with roman stripes and deep fringe. These are knotted, like four-in-hand ties,

sementeries and are set in the midst of embroideries done on the fabric.

Waists are rarely made plain, some sort of yoke or guimpe effect being almost inevitable. All sorts of odd shapes are seen. One model has a curious guimpe effect on one side only of the front, where it extends to the waist line. The gown is of brown cashmere, the skirt shirred to form a deep yoke. The waist is stitched smooth over a fitted lining, the right side of the front overlapping the guimpe of turquoise blue velvet. The waist is elaborately embroidered with black silk and studded with turquoises and jet. The sleeves are of the cashmere, shirred, and then made so that the shirring is on the bias. This is more comfortable than the straight around shirring, as it allows the sleeve to be fitted closely without the discomfort of the tight lines about the arm. The hat is of black velvet, in toque shape, with black wings and turquoise ornaments. The ruffled ruche and muff are of chinchilla.

Two New Shades.

Jalouse is the name of a fashionable shade of yellow, that is also called orient and regent in Paris and Berlin. There is scarcely a half shade's difference in the three. An especially deep orange is called Kiondike, though no gold was ever so red. A new medium violet shade is called acout.

ORIGIN OF FASHIONS.

American society women who eagerly follow the changing modes have little idea how these modes start. Even in Paris, where most of the fashions begin, their origin is mysterious. But the changes which take place in fashion are never improved. They are, on the contrary, the result of a series of essays and ang stydy. Oftentimes from a personal tell which might escape notice the era which will determine the direction of a new model will be born. Once the models for the coming fashion are determined upon, word is sent forth, and the fashionable customers who make or kill a fashion start out on their accustomed pilgrimages along the Rue de la Paix and its environs.

"The Parisienne," a famous modiste said the other day, "really collaborates in the birth of a new fashion. She possesses a sense of keen criticism, a faculty of appreciation, which is often precious. She helps with her advice to bring a model to its culminant point of simplicity and elegance."

This influence has often been contested by certain dressmakers, but it is no less real for all that, and the most authoritative have been forced to submit, knowing that if such and such a model is accepted by a certain group, whose example will make it a law, the majority of women will accept in their turn that cut and that shade during the height of its popularity and even when it is on the wane.

And then again it is the unexpected and unforeseen chance, if we may so call it, and which is so often the arbiter of human affairs, which determines the fashions. Fashion not only searches the future for novelties; she also turns her steps backward, as can be plainly seen by a careful study of ancient portraits hanging in some museum or art gallery. Do we not there see mediol gowns, Gainsborough hats, diregloire coiffures and gowns, and are these not reproduced for us almost semiannually?

To Make a Muff.

A fashionable muffmaker told a customer that out of any three materials she could make a fashionable muff. With half a yard of velvet, a yard of silk and very little fur most fancy muffs could be made.

A foundation is necessary. This is cut from strong canvas cloth. The side of the muff carried next the dress is covered with velvet. The front is covered with gathered silk. The fur is put on in narrow rows down the sides. That is one recipe.

For another, cover the muff front and back with cloth to match the dress. Fasten a tall on one side. Sew an immense bunch of artificial violets upon the front.

Let all wadding be softest wool, and measure your parts with mathematical precision.

Silk linings are often allowed to fall out of the muff at each end, making a big gay ruffle.

Seen in the Shops.

Gray silk waists trimmed with white lace and chinchilla fur.

Gold crown toques trimmed with furs and tiny ostrich tips.

Black and white neck ruffs edged with a cluster of varicolored stripes.

Handsome gold and rhinestone buttons for fancy silk waists.

Blouses of red silk, with revers, yolk and collar of dark blue.

Light cloth jackets having an inlaid collar and cuffs of contrasting velvet.

CHINESE HOUSEHOLDS.

Unlike the Japanese, the Chinese have been accustomed to the use of high tables and chairs for hundreds of years. Curiously enough, though, one often sees the coolies in the streets squatting about on their heels, and they never take their meals in this position.

As a rule, their tables, and consequently their chairs and stools, are higher than ours. So high, in fact, are the round, marble topped tables that one can see only the heads and shoulders of those sitting at them.

The table is placed in the center of the room, is guiltless of napery—that is, among the lower and middle classes—and only one dish is served at a time. Men and women eat separately; of course, as the women are not supposed to leave the zenana while the men are about the house. Frequently high carved stools, with marble or porcelain seats let in, are used for dining chairs, and as many sit about the table as can find room for their stools.

In private houses much pomp and ceremony are observed, for the Chinese are nothing if not dignified and decorous. I have frequently seen in a restaurant or Chinese inn eight or ten coolies crowded around a table which we would think hardly large enough for four people. Each one helped himself to rice from the large dish in the center, and when his own small bowl was filled tea was poured over it until each separate kernel of rice floated. The Chinese then put the bowl to his lips and with the aid of chopsticks poked the whole mass into his mouth as fast as possible.

There are innumerable servants, even in the houses of the poorer and middle classes. Servants' wages are so low and the coolie can live on so little that no one need do without plenty of help. The system of caste is rigorously adhered to, and no servant will perform a duty, however simple or necessary, that does not belong to his work.

Of course the Chinese, understanding this, never demand it, but the "pigeon-foot" gets himself into no end of trouble by asking the butler to do something which belongs to the cook, the "scullery boy" or the chit coolie. He is brought up by a round turn and calmly and placidly told "that no b'long my pigeon"—in other words, "that is not my business," "pigeon" being the nearest to Chinese can come to pronouncing the word business.

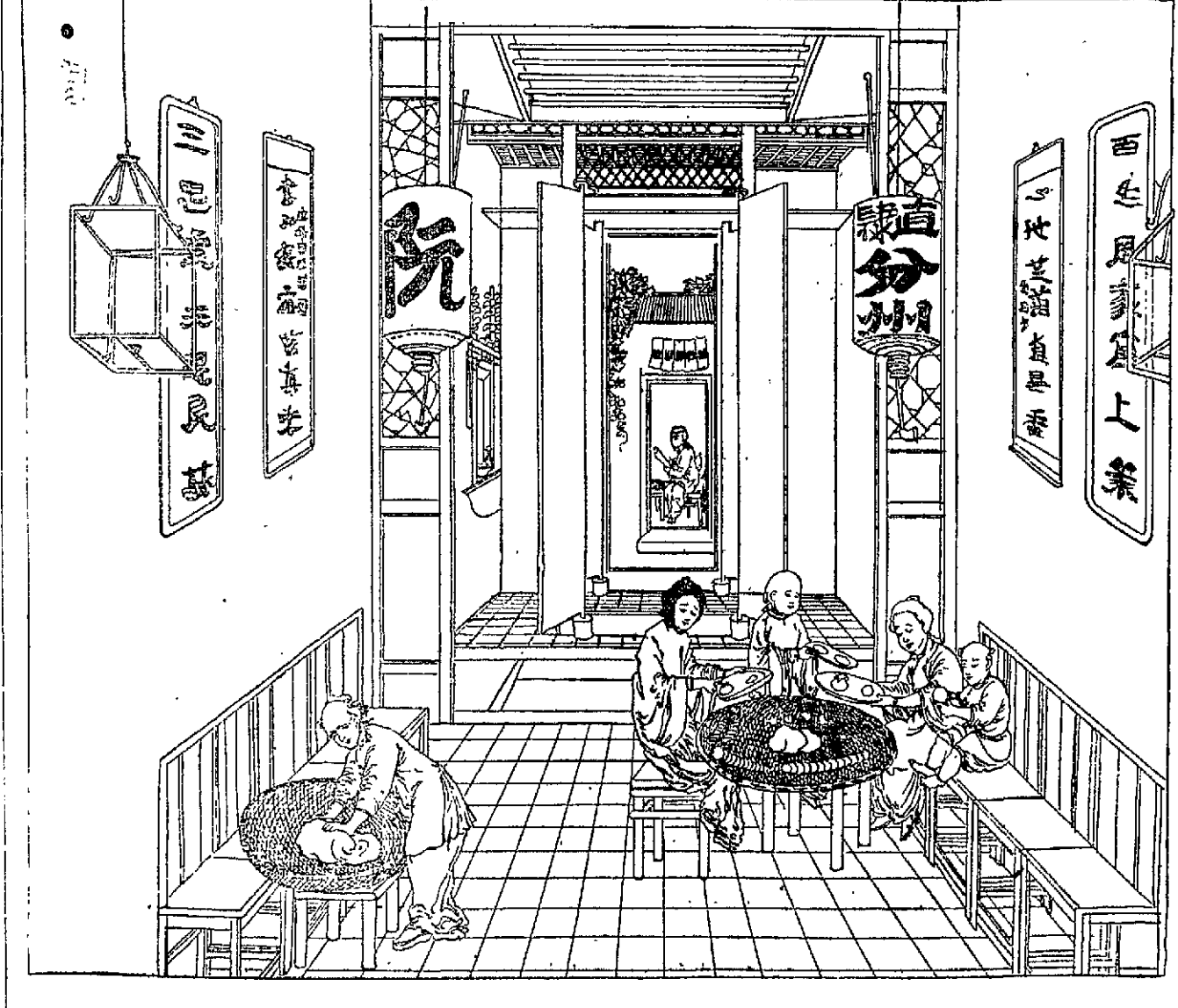
In the homes of the wealthy people we find as luxurious surroundings as we do among the same class in the occident. For instance, the bedchambers are hung with heavily embroidered curtains, ottomans, tables and chairs are covered with drapery of exquisite embroidery, and their furniture, of which they have almost as many pieces as we have, is elaborately carved and inlaid with decorated china and hard woods. This in turn is sometimes concealed from view by heavy curtains.

that the elaborate silken napkins may not be ruined by soiled fingers. These dainty creations are apparently as great a source of pride to the Chinese housewife as our own delicate doilies are to us.

The Chinese have far more furniture than the Japanese, great heavily carved bedsteads being a specialty in some parts of the empire. There are some elaborately carved ones which are not so very unlike our own folding bed of the present day. There are drawers beneath the bed, and on either side are

ty pillows," which she has spent her girlhood in embroidering for her own and her husband's use. House linen, as we understand it, is unknown.

In the northern part of China, where the winters are very severe, most houses have a broad, hollow trench of brick built across one end or one side of the main room. This is heated by fires and during the day furnished with low chairs and tables, where the family sit to keep warm. At night they bring their wadded comforts and roll themselves up and sleep on the heated brick.



DINING HALL IN A CHINESE RESIDENCE.

shelves and small drawers for toilet articles, so arranged as to be shut in by an outer inclosure of beautifully carved scrollwork set like a screen. This in turn is sometimes concealed from view by heavy curtains.

When the Chinese pay visits, they literally obey the Biblical injunction to take up their bed and walk, for they carry with them what answers for mattresses, their pillows and the wadded comforts which they use for covering. The host furnishes nothing but the bedstead.

Their pillows, or head rests, do not differ materially from those of the Japanese, though they are sometimes much more elaborate. They use bamboo or porcelain rests, with handsome covers embroidered heavily at the ends. A part of a bride's outfit are two "longevi-

their former appearance spotted, soiled or faded cloth or serge gowns.

Pick about 25 ivy leaves, young, green ones by choice, wash them carefully and place them in a jug or basin. Add about a pint of boiling water, cover up the basin or jug for two or three hours, when it will be ready for use. Meanwhile the garment must be thoroughly brushed inside and out and all untidy braid and lining removed from the bottom. When ready, spread it on the table and carefully sponge with the ivy water. It must then be hung out to dry, when it will be found to have recovered its former color and to look quite like new.

Black silk may be cleaned in the same manner, but it needs more care. If the silk is in breadths, it must be lightly sponged and then tightly rolled over a

made of bamboo, filled with bread or other articles to be cooked. Several of these sieves are placed one above another and the contents cooked at the same time.

Tea is the first thing served at a Chinese meal. After that a servant brings a tray full of wet, warm towels, offering one to each guest, who wipes his face and hands with it. In a hot climate this is thought far more conducive to coolness than bathing in cold water.

Old Clothes Made New.

A woman of wonderful resources has just discovered a new and very sure way of renovating and restoring to

cloth wound around a roller and left to dry.

Black lace may also be renovated when soiled or brown with age by sponging with ivy water and then rolling over a cloth wound around a roller. It should not be ironed.

To remove mildew stains mix equal quantities of soft soap and powdered starch with half the quantity of salt. Make into a paste with lemon juice. Lay this paste on each side of the mildew stains and let the article lie out on the grass night and day until the stains disappear. Soaking the clothes stained in buttermilk for a considerable time, then washing them in the usual manner and finally leaving them to bleach all night on the grass is an old fashioned country method which is effective. Another is to make a paste of table salt and lemon juice and lay this thickly on the spots, which should have been previously wetted and sponged, the linen so treated being left in the open air to bleach for several hours at least.

The best element in any of these treatments is the night's bleach. In towns, where this is impracticable, the best thing is to make a solution of equal parts of chloride of lime and common soda in boiling water—one half pound each of the lime and soda to three quarts of water. Dip the stains into this for a few seconds till they disappear. Then rinse the article in boiling soap and send to the wash, as usual. Do not let the articles stay more than a few seconds in the solution, or it will burn them. Whenever possible, do not omit the night bleach.

Aluminium For Household Utensils.

Undoubtedly the most important use to which aluminium will be put will be for culinary and household utensils. Being practically incorrodible, it is free from every form of poison and will not taint food. It is light to handle and a better conductor of heat than other metals.

The recent announcement that contracts had been signed for the delivery in England of 1,000 tons of crude aluminium of American manufacture makes prominent the fact that this remarkable metal is now being produced in this country in large and constantly increasing quantities. Ten years ago no pure aluminium was manufactured in the United States, and in Europe it was produced at a cost that rendered it useless to the mechanical world. Today it is the rival, and the successful rival, of both copper and steel. In 1896 the United States alone produced 1,200,000 pounds of the crude metal, a third of the total output of the world. In 1890 the market price of the metal was \$1 an ounce. Today it is less than 50 cents a pound.

Aluminium is an exceedingly abundant element in nature. It is obtained in the form of an oxide of bauxite, of which there are large deposits in this country.

FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

To Waterproof Paper.—Take two ounces of alum and three ounces of castile soap, and melt together in half a quart of water. Also melt one ounce of blue and half an ounce of gum arabic in the same quantity of water. Lastly, mix the two solutions, heat them slightly and fill a bath or flat basin with the preparation. Dip the paper to be waterproofed, sheet by sheet, into this water, and then hang them on a line, stretched across a room to dry gradually.

Clouded Chocolate Cake.—One cup of

sugar, half a cup of butter, two eggs, half a cup of milk, two cups of flour, half a teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, sifted with the flour. Flavor with vanilla. Take almost half of this mixture and make sars dark as required with grated chocolate. Put in the tin the same as for marble cake.

Scrambled Eggs.—Put into a saucepan half a cup of milk or thin cream and one level tablespoonful of butter. Let the milk come to the boiling point, and then add four beaten eggs. Stir constantly until no liquid is left. Add salt and pepper, and serve on squares of toast.

Lemon Tapioca.—Two tablespoonfuls of tapioca soaked overnight in half a cupful of water. Add half a cupful of cold water in the morning, the peeled rind of a lemon and boil until clear. Then take out the rind, add the juice of the lemon, a teaspoonful of lemon extract, half a cupful each of sugar and boiling water, a pinch of salt and boil. Mold and serve with sugar and cream.

Art in Furnishing.

The delicate tints of the average expensively furnished parlor are apt to be colorless unless there is some relief to them. One sees so many rooms with soft, pearly gray-wilton carpets, walls of very much the same shade, hangings of silvery plush, furniture largely in white and gold, even the sofa cushions of the palest hues in costly fabrics. The curious set expressions of such a room, as if it were arranged for an exhibition parlor of upholstery, is enhanced usually by the lack of any sort of center.

Every room to be successful needs some sort of focus—an open fireplace, a reading table, anything that suggests a drawing together of the room's occupants. It is this lack of suggestion of life which makes one stroll through one of these perfectly appointed rooms and come with a sigh of relief into the next apartment, which the family really use.

Occasionally a house is entered whose mistress boldly banishes the so called parlor, letting it be simply an extension of the library. Books line its wall, a long table with chairs drawn around it is piled with magazines, the latest books and a writing service. All these may be as elegant as one's purse admits, but their very presence confers a charm and effect by their suggestion of use that are not found in the handsomest stretches of upholstery and woodwork.

Fig Cake.

Mix a large tablespoonful of butter with a cup of powdered sugar, stir until white and creamy, add the yolks of 2 eggs, stir five minutes longer, sift 1½ cupfuls of flour with a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder, beat the 3 whites to a stiff froth, then add alternately the flour, the whites and half a cupful of milk. Don't stir any longer than can be helped. Flavor with the grated rind of half a lemon, butter 2 square tins and dust them with flour, pour in the preparation, smooth with a knife and bake in a slow oven.

In the meantime put 4 ounces of fine cut figs in a saucepan, cover with half a cupful of water, add the juice of half a lemon and cook till soft, then add 2 tablespoonfuls of sugar, boil a few minutes and set aside to cool. When the cake is cold, lay the two layers over one another and put the figs between them and dust the top with sugar.

THE HOME BAKER.

For cake powdered sugar, sifted, is often better than any other kind, especially for angel or sponge cake.

If you want to have chopped jelly for garnishing dishes, remember to chop or cut it with a knife which has been dipped in ice water and have the jelly on paper which has also been dipped in water.

To color homemade candy pink make a preparation of a quarter ounce each of powdered cochineal, alum and cream of tartar; mix well and add 4 ounces of warm water and the same quantity of alcohol; cover and allow the mixture to stand and ferment for 24 hours, stir a drop at a time in the candy until you have the right shade.

Beechnuts make a nice dressing for roast woodcock. After shelling the nuts season with a little butter and salt and stuff the bird full of them. The nuts are removed from the shells by pouring hot water over them.

To color green crush and cook a few spinach leaves in water, strain and use the liquid. Fruit juices can also be used for coloring purposes in candy making.

A chestnut salad is very good these cold evenings. Shell, boil and drain until tender a pint of chestnuts, wash in dust with salt and stand aside to cool. Boil 2 eggs hard. At serving time arrange crisp leaves of lettuce in a salad bowl, put the chestnuts over and then a French dressing, using lemon juice instead of vinegar. Hold a small sieve over the bowl and rub the yolks of the eggs through it, covering the salad lightly.

In making jelly roll, when the cake is taken from the oven place it on a cloth dipped in cold water, then spread the jelly on the cake and roll quickly.

How to Wash Chambray Leather.

Make a weak solution of soda and warm water. Rub plenty of soft soap into the leather, put into the soda and water and let it soak for two hours, then rub well until quite clean. Rinse thoroughly in a weak solution of soda and yellow soap in warm water, but not in water alone, or else it will be hard. After rinsing wring the leather in a rough towel and dry quickly, then pull it about and rub it well until soft.

A Hint About Rugs.

The slipping of rugs on smooth, hard floors is a serious annoyance, even a danger. A rug salesman tells how to prevent it. "First the rugs thoroughly," he said, "and then turn them right side downward until dry. It will not hurt them and will relieve the tendency to slip." The explanation is that the wetting dissolves some slightly gummy substance used in their treatment, whose drying makes them slippery.

Old Kid Gloves.

A piece of old kid makes the vest and strongest and to wear in winter coats and wrings to hang them up. Use an old kid glove, cutting a narrow strip in the best part of the leather. Roll this up a piece of coarse string, sew together neatly, and attach it to the garment with strong thread.

Too much washing is apt to make the hair harsh and dry. At bedtime the hair should be unfastened and thoroughly brushed and then plaited loosely. Hair that is regularly brushed night and morning will keep clean and glossy and require less frequent washing.

